

3 days left to Christmas

Happy Holidays



On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com Website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: 582-7800 Wednesday, December 22, 2010



Census Bureau Director Robert Groves announces results for the 2010 U.S. Census at the National Press Club, Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010 in Washington.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

U.S. Census shows slowing growth

By HOPE YEN
CHARLES BABINGTON,

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Republican-leaning states will pick up a half dozen House seats thanks to the 2010 census, which found the nation's population growing more slowly than in past decades but still shifting to the South and West. The Census Bureau announced Tuesday that the nation's population on April 1 was 308,745,538, up from 281.4 million a decade ago. The growth rate for the past decade was 9.7 percent, a slower pace than the 13.2 percent population increase from 1990 to 2000.

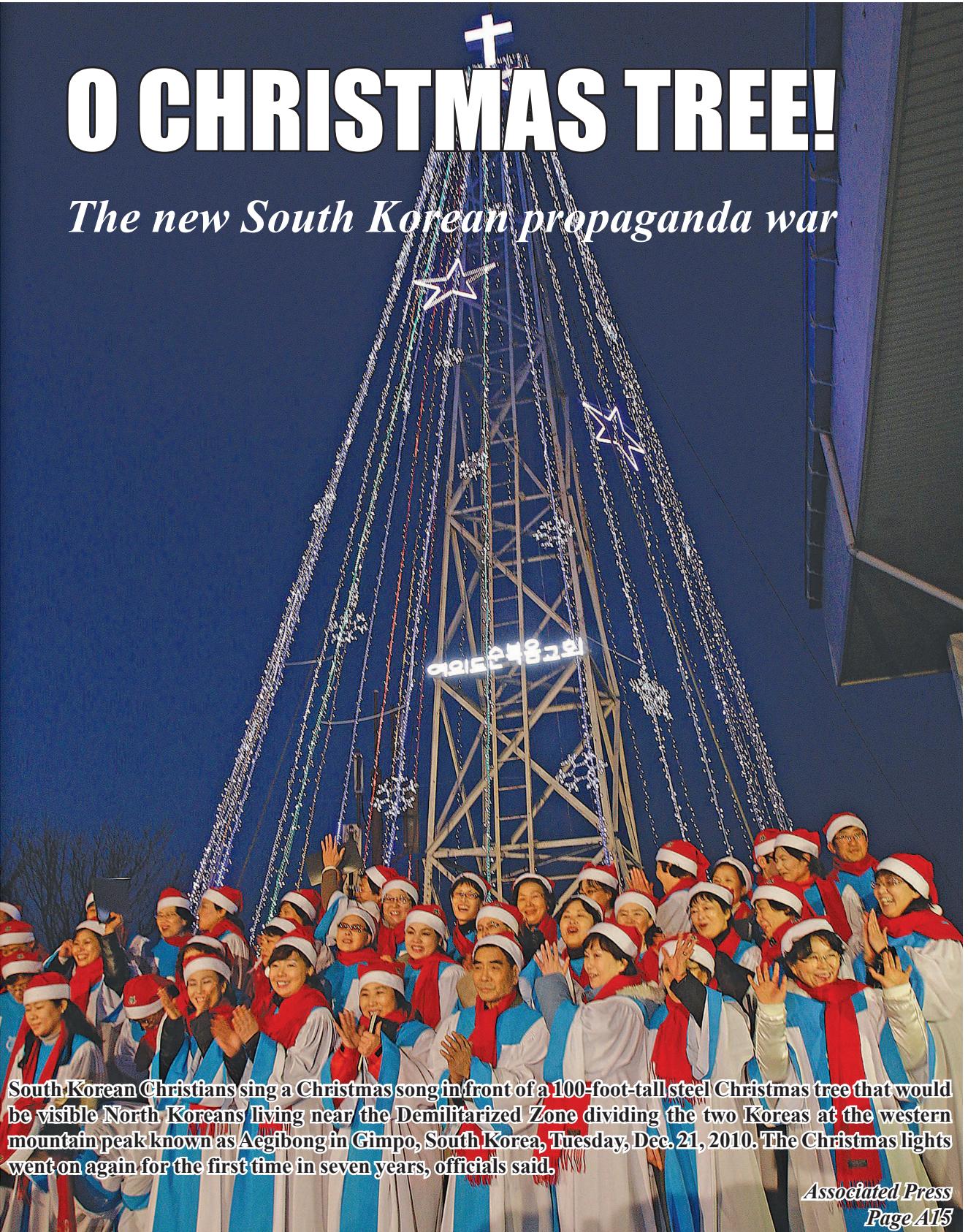
Only one state, Michigan, lost population during the past decade. Nevada, with a 35 percent increase, was the fastest-growing state. The new numbers are a boon for Republicans, with Texas leading the way among GOP-leaning states that will gain House seats at the Rust Belt's expense. Following each once-a-decade census, the nation must reapportion the House's 435 districts to make them roughly equal in population, with each state getting at least one seat.

That triggers an often contentious and partisan process in many states, which will draw new congressional district lines that can help or hurt either party.

Continued on Page A3

O CHRISTMAS TREE!

The new South Korean propaganda war



South Korean Christians sing a Christmas song in front of a 100-foot-tall steel Christmas tree that would be visible North Koreans living near the Demilitarized Zone dividing the two Koreas at the western mountain peak known as Aegibong in Gimpo, South Korea, Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010. The Christmas lights went on again for the first time in seven years, officials said.

Associated Press
Page A15



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APnewsBreak: 23 percent can't pass military exam



By CHRISTINE ARMARIO
DORIE TURNER,
Associated Press

MIAMI — Nearly one-fourth of the students who try to join the military fail its entrance exam, painting a grim picture of an education system that produces graduates who can't

answer basic math, science and reading questions.

The report by The Education Trust found that 23 percent of recent high school graduates don't get the minimum score needed on the enlistment test to join any branch of the military. The study, released

exclusively to The Associated Press on Tuesday, comes on top of Pentagon data that shows 75 percent of those aged 17 to 24 don't qualify for the military because they are physically unfit, have a criminal record or didn't graduate high school.

"Too many of our high school students are not graduating ready to begin college or a career — and many are not eligible to serve in our armed forces," U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan told the AP. "I am deeply troubled by the national security burden created by America's underperforming education system." The effect of the low eligibility rate might not be noticeable now — the Department of Defense says it is meeting its recruitment goals — but that could change as the economy improves, said retired Navy Rear Admiral Jamie Barnett. "If you can't get the people that you need,

there's a potential for a decline in your readiness," said Barnett, who is part of the group Mission: Readiness, a coalition of retired military leaders working to bring awareness to the high ineligibility rates. Kenneth Jackson, 19, of Miami, enlisted in the Army after graduating from high school. He said passing the entrance exam is easy for those who paid attention in school, but blamed the education system for why more recruits aren't able to pass the test. "The classes need to be tougher because people aren't learning enough," Jackson said. This is the first time ever that the U.S. Army has released this test data publicly, said Amy Wilkins with The Education Trust, a Washington, D.C.-based children's advocacy group. She said the organization worked with the U.S. Army to get raw data on test takers from the past five years.

"It's really about illuminating the issue of whether our high schools are preparing young people to serve the country," said Wilkins, vice president of The Education Trust. "It's important for national security." The Education Trust study shows wide disparities in scores among white and minority students. Nearly 40 percent of black students and 30 percent of Hispanics don't pass, compared to 16 percent of whites. Even those passing muster on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, or ASVAB, usually aren't getting scores high enough to snag the best jobs. "A lot of times, schools have failed to step up and challenge these young people, thinking it didn't really matter — they'll straighten up when they get into the military," said Kati Haycock, president of the Washington-based Education Trust. "The military doesn't think that way." □

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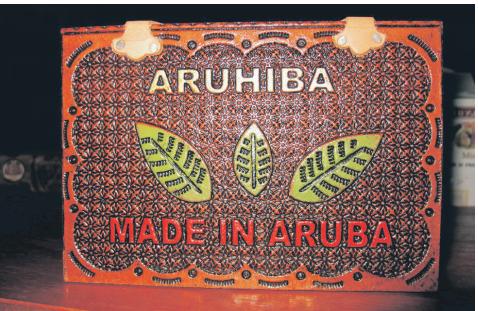
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ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi has always

had an interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crop. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The process took ten years. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the molding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar box is specially designed for the cigars with the logo "Aruhiba". Petrocchi considers Aruhiba a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars. The company sells International cigars as well. Buy a gift box of Aruhiba Corona with five

cigars and you will get 1 FREE cigar of \$35. Located at the Historic Dutch Windmill. Open from Monday to Saturday from 9am till 8:30pm. And open on Sunday from 9am to 1pm. At the Tamarijn Hotel open on Monday till Saturday 12pm to 8pm.

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CENSUS

Continued from Front Page

Texas will gain four new House seats, and Florida will gain two. Gaining one each are Arizona, Georgia, Nevada, South Carolina, Utah and Washington.

Ohio and New York will lose two House seats each. Losing one House seat are Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Florida will now have as many U.S. House members as New York: 27.

California will still have 53 seats, and Texas will climb to 36.

In 2008, President Barack Obama lost in Texas and most of the other states that are gaining House seats. He carried most of the states that are losing House seats, including Ohio and Pennsylvania. Each House district represents an electoral vote in the presidential election process, meaning the political map for the 2012 election will tilt somewhat more Republican.

For the first time in its history, Democratic-leaning California will not gain a House seat after a census.

Starting early next year, most state governments will use detailed, computer-generated data on voting patterns to carve neighborhoods in or out of newly drawn House districts, tilting them more to the left or right. Sometimes politicians play it safe, quietly agreeing to protect

Republican and Democratic incumbents alike. But sometimes the party in control will gamble and aggressively try to reconfigure the map to dump as many opponents as possible.

Last month's elections put Republicans in full control of numerous state governments, giving the GOP an overall edge in the redistricting process. State governments' ability to gerrymander districts is somewhat limited, however, by court rulings that require roughly equal populations, among other things.

The 1965 Voting Rights Act protects ethnic minorities in several states that are subject to U.S. Justice Department oversight.

The U.S. is still growing quickly relative to other developed nations. The population in France and England each increased roughly 5 percent over the past decade, while in Japan the number is largely unchanged, and Germany's population is declining. China grew at about 6 percent; Canada's growth rate is roughly 10 percent.

The declining U.S. growth rate since 2000 is due partly to the economic meltdown in 2008, which brought U.S. births and illegal immigration to a near standstill compared with previous years. The 2010 count represents the number of people — citizens as well as legal and illegal immigrants — who called the U.S. their home on April 1. □

Census Bureau Director Robert Groves announces results for the 2010 U.S. Census at the National Press Club, Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010 in Washington. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

White House press secretary Robert Gibbs sought Monday to downplay the possibility that 2010 census results would be a boon for Republicans. "I don't think shifting some seats from one area of the country to another necessarily marks a concern that you can't make a politically potent argument in those new places," he said. States losing political clout may have little recourse to challenge the census numbers. Still, census officials were bracing for the possibility of lawsuits seeking to revise the 2010 findings.

The release of state apportionment numbers is the first set of numbers from the 2010 census. Beginning in February, the Census Bureau will release population and race breakdowns down to the neighborhood level for states to redraw congressional boundaries.

Louisiana, Virginia, New Jersey and Mississippi will be among the first states to receive their redistricting data in February.

The 2010 census results also are used to distribute more than \$400 billion in annual federal aid and will change each state's Electoral College votes beginning in the 2012 presidential election. □



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NY judge revokes bail for Bernie Madoff secretary



Rudy Bongiorno (L), husband of Annette Bongiorno, leaves federal court with attorney Nina Mandel (R) after a hearing for his wife Annette November 22, 2010 in West Palm Beach, Florida. Annette Bongiorno, a longtime employee of now-imprisoned Ponzi schemer Bernard Madoff, was unable to secure release from the court during a bond hearing.

By LARRY NEUMEISTER,
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Bernard Madoff's former secretary was ordered Tuesday to surrender in Florida by a judge who revoked her \$5 million bail, saying her access to large amounts of money created "a very real potential" she could flee.

U.S. District Judge Laura Taylor Swain rejected the arguments by lawyers for 62-year-old Annette Bongiorno that her husband should be allowed to post money from his bank accounts to support a bail package.

"There is a serious risk the

defendant will not appear," Swain said. The judge cited what she called an abundance of "very strong" evidence that there were "unrestrained assets that pose a very real potential for the facilitation of flight."

Bongiorno was arrested last month on conspiracy, securities fraud and falsifying records charges. Authorities said she helped Madoff cover up a multibillion-dollar Ponzi scheme that made her wealthy as it wiped out the life savings of thousands of clients.

Bongiorno's lawyer, Maurice Sercarz, asked Swain to delay the effect of her ruling to give

him time to immediately appeal but she declined. Sercarz said the detention order was being appealed.

"I'm disappointed," Sercarz said outside court. He said he did not know if his client would be held at a West Palm Beach, Fla., jail or if she would be put on a plane and eventually brought to New York. "We knew this day was coming," he said.

He said Bongiorno would not flee.

For a long time, Bongiorno has known she might face prosecution and was "not just a subject but a target" of the investigation into Madoff's collapsed financial empire, Sercarz said.

"This process has been excruciating for her," he said. Bongiorno was recently named in a new indictment along with another back office worker, Joann Crupi, former operations chief Daniel Bonventre and computer programmers Jerome O'Hara and George Perez. The four have remained free on bail. The indictment alleges that Bongiorno and Crupi, 49, "executed" trades in the accounts of (wealthy clients) only on paper ... and that achieved annual rates of return that had been predetermined by Madoff."

Prosecutors say Bongiorno

deposited about \$920,000 in her own Madoff account from 1975 to 2008 and withdrew more than \$14 million in investor funds over the same period to buy expensive homes and pay for other luxuries.

Madoff, 72, pleaded guilty to fraud charges last year and is serving a 150-year prison sentence.

An investigation continues to determine who knew about Madoff's fraud or assisted it during its more than two-

decade existence. Authorities have said they continue to investigate Madoff's brother Peter and son Andrew, who were executive in the Madoff firm's market-making and proprietary-trading business. Neither has been charged.

Madoff's eldest son, Mark, who had also worked at Madoff's firm and been a subject for investigators, committed suicide 10 days ago on the two-year anniversary of his father's arrest. □

Unemployed get another jobless benefit — free yoga

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The women snuggle into nests of pillows and blankets.

A light breeze, like a mother blowing on a baby's boo-boo, falls from ceiling fans and tickles their backs. The room is dark, silent, until they crawl out of child's pose and chant, "Omm."

This is free yoga for the unemployed: a different kind of jobless benefit where former managers, laid-off limo drivers and others can turn to the grown-up version of nap time to ease the stress of being out of work.

With national unemployment just below 10 percent, \$20 yoga classes don't qualify as necessities for many out-of-work people who've pruned luxuries from their budgets. So in a gesture that's part send-good-vibes-to-the-universe and part community outreach, a handful of yoga studios have decided to cut the unemployed a break.

"We didn't want them to have to choose, 'Should I eat today or go take this class?' We wanted to give them the ability to do both," said Zack Lynn, a computer techie by day who teaches a free yoga class for people out of work in Columbus. The Integral Yoga Institute in New York started offering free weekly classes last year when some students lost their jobs and couldn't afford to pay \$17 per course. Now, a dozen or two jobseekers drop in for free sun salutations and other stretches every week.

"It helps to quiet the mind and helps people realize that this is a temporary situation," said Jo Sgammato, the studio's general manager.

Yogis say breathing exercises can reduce the stress of job interviews and post-stretching tea time is good for networking.

"You're not really thinking about other things," said Quinn Johnson, a 42-year-old former limo driver who started attending Integral Yoga's free classes earlier this year.

"You're relaxing. You're stretching."

Some students have found work and switched to paid classes. But employment experts and yogis alike are quick to point out that yoga shouldn't get all the credit.

"Yoga's not getting anybody a job," said Wendy Enelow, an executive career consultant in Coleman Falls, Va. "What the yoga studios do and I think kudos to them is if you physically feel better, your head's going to feel better and you're in a better place to manage your job search."

Practicing yoga is believed to reduce stress and improve concentration. Some studios offer special classes to help veterans work through traumatic experiences and women cope with pregnancies. □

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Military will write the rules on repeal of gay ban

By LOLITA C. BALDOR,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Gays and lesbians will be treated just like any other soldiers, sailors, airmen or marines, the new rules say. But commanders will have some flexibility when they believe it's needed to maintain order and discipline in their units.

As the U.S. military begins to map out how it will implement the new edict allowing gays to serve openly, the first order of business is drafting the regulations. The rule changes under discussion won't dictate how troops feel about the change, but will strictly enforce how they act on it.

The Senate voted Saturday to repeal the ban on openly gay service, following earlier action by the House. Fulfilling a 2008 campaign promise, President Barack Obama plans to sign the bill into law on Wednesday at an Interior Department ceremony. But in letters to the troops over the weekend, the four military service chiefs warned that the ban is still in place, and will be for some time to come.

"The implementation and certification process will not happen immediately; it will take time," Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz

said in an e-mail to airmen. "Meanwhile, the current law remains in effect. All Air Force members should conduct themselves accordingly."

Recommendations to implement the repeal were outlined in a 67-page report last month, and now must be formed into concrete regulations.

Defense officials said Monday that they still don't know how long it will take before the Pentagon completes its implementation plan and certifies the change will not damage combat readiness. Once certified, the implementation would begin 60 days later.

The report, however, provides a fairly detailed preview of what troops and the American public can expect, once the new rules are in place.

And it puts the heaviest burden on commanders who will have to walk a fine line between enforcing the updated code of military conduct and recognizing when they may need to make some concessions.

The plans call for strict and immediate action when the new rules are violated. But there is also an emphasis on educating troops who are having problems. For example,

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Senator Joseph Lieberman (I-CT) (center L) smiles with Mike Almy (center R), who was dismissed from the U.S. Air Force for being gay, at a news conference after the passage of a procedure hurdle to lead to the probable repeal of the Don't Ask Don't Tell policy against homosexuals serving in the military, at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, December 18, 2010.

what they believe.

The health and social benefits, however, are a murky area that Pentagon officials say they are trying to work through.

In some cases, service

members may be able to designate a same-sex partner for benefits. In most cases, however, they are treated much like unmarried heterosexual couples. □

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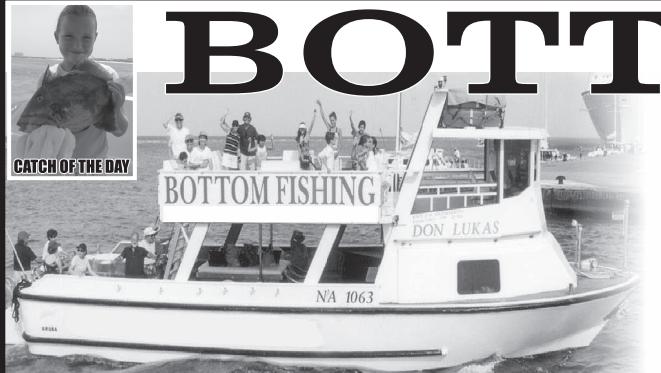
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Storm hits California with heavy rain, high winds



A rain-swollen Silverado Creek runs beneath Black Star Canyon Road early Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010 in Silverado Canyon, Calif. The latest in a series of powerful storm systems is bearing down on California, pelting mountain areas with heavy rain, snow and high winds, prompting evacuations and leaving thousands without power.

(AP Photo)

By RAQUEL MARIA DILLON,
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Rescuers pulled motorists from

swamped cars and found hikers trapped by a swollen creek, as Pacific storms dumped more rain Tuesday on saturated California and

forecasters warned of a likely intensification before it all ends.

The storms have affected almost the entire state since they began Friday, dumping moisture from far Northern California south to San Diego. More than 12 inches of rain have fallen in parts of the Santa Monica Mountains in the south, and 13 feet of snow has accumulated at Mammoth Mountain ski resort. Downtown Los Angeles had received 5.77 inches of rain since Friday, more than a third of the average annual precipitation.

The National Weather Service predicted an even fiercer storm would roll into Southern California beginning Tuesday night. Forecasters warned of possible rainfall rates of .75 inch to 1 inch an hour and thunderstorm rates of 2 inches an hour in the region.

"These rates will pose a significant flash-flooding threat for the recent burn areas and maybe even for the

non-burn areas," the National Weather Service said, referring to areas scarred by wildfires.

A swath of Los Angeles suburbs along the foothills below the steep San Gabriel Mountains are at risk of debris flows — potentially devastating flash floods carrying boulders, trees and soil — after a 2009 wildfire that stripped vegetation off 250 square miles of Angeles National Forest. More than 40 homes in the foothills were damaged or destroyed during a February storm.

Geologist Susan Cannon said remote monitoring sites in the Station Fire burn area were picking up the beginnings of a debris flow about three feet deep a mile up the Arroyo Seco, a watercourse that flows out of the mountain range. The flow consisted of rocks, mud and vegetation, she said. If the next wave of the storm creates rainfall of an inch an hour or more, the area could be in danger of a significant mudslides or debris flow,

said Cannon, who has studied the risk of a slide at the Station Fire site extensively as an employee of the U.S. Geological Survey.

"It means that once the heaviest rains start, it should be a very active time up there," she said.

At the eastern end of the San Gabriels, 15 people were evacuated from four homes in Wrightwood when water and debris crested the bank of a wash. Bulldozers were called to divert water but one home had minor damage. Crews on Tuesday continued working on the wash in anticipation of more rain, San Bernardino County fire spokeswoman Tracey Martinez said. At least five people were rescued from cars trapped in swift-moving waters on flooded roads in San Bernardino County, said Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Cindy Bachman. Some had driven past barriers closing off the roads, she said. □

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US executions drop by 12 percent in 2010

WASHINGTON — The number of executions in the United States dropped 12 percent in 2010, and the number of people sentenced to die is nearing historic lows, a report from an anti-capital punishment group says.

The Death Penalty Information Center attributed the reductions to changing attitudes toward capital punishment, but acknowledged there have also been problems with the availability of chemicals used in lethal injections.

"Whether it's concerns about the high costs of the death penalty at a time when budgets are being slashed, the risks of executing the innocent, unfairness, or other reasons, the nation continued to move away from the death penalty in 2010," said Richard Dieter, the center's executive director and author of the report. The group counted 46 executions in Texas, Ohio, Alabama, Virginia, Oklahoma, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Louisiana, Arizona, Utah and Washington in 2010. That's fewer than in 2009, when there were 52 executions in 16 states. Tennessee, South Carolina, Indiana and

Missouri did not execute anyone in 2010, but did so in 2009.

The center's 2010 numbers are through December 20. The Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics has similar figures, counting 45 executions between January and November 30, 2010. Thirty-five states have the death penalty. Texas executed the largest number of people by far in 2010, but also showed the biggest drop in inmates put to death. There were 17 executions this year in Texas, compared with 24 in 2009. The 2010 total is the state's lowest since 2001.

The group's report attributed the Texas drop to "the state's adoption of a sentence of life without parole in 2005, changes in the district attorneys in prominent jurisdictions such as Houston and Dallas, and the ongoing residue of past mistakes."

There have been 12 exonerations of death row inmates in Texas since 1978. Dieter testified at a Texas judge's hearing on the constitutionality of the death penalty earlier this month. □

LOCAL Aruba TODAY

Letter to the Editor:

It is important to bring to your attention a very serious downtown issue of concern to the Oranjestad community at large. Everyone is aware and sensitive to the demoralizing image and depressed consequences that our downtown has suffered through in the last several years. We have all been witness to the many store and restaurant closures in this recent period of our history as well.

I am writing this editorial as a member of the downtown merchant community to point out an extremely selfish act among us.

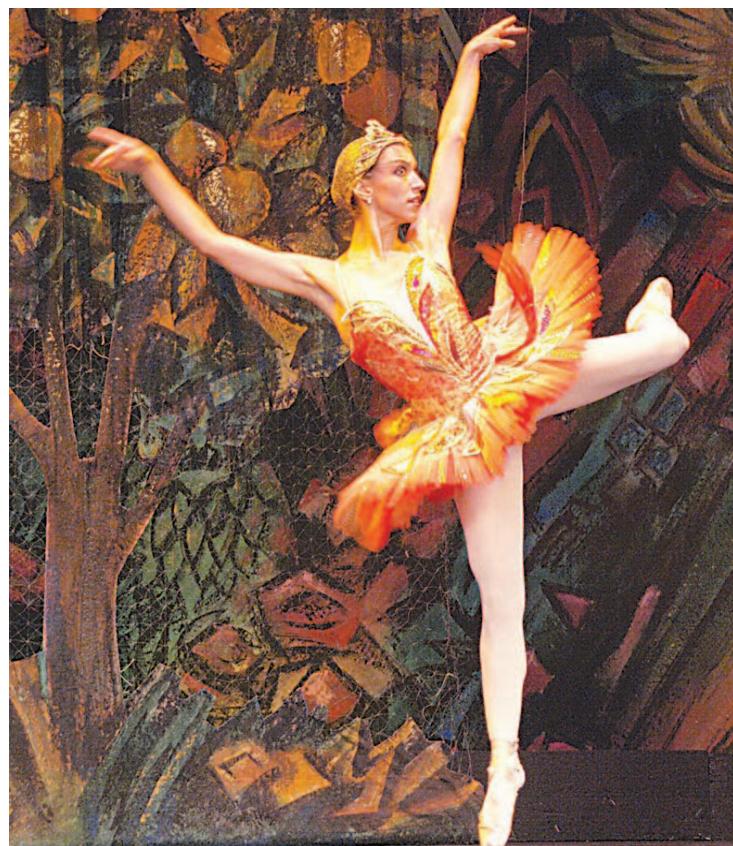
Our downtown has always been extremely short of parking space, period.

In the middle of our commercial community sits a vacant parking lot next to and owned by The Aruba Investment Bank. Everyone shopping or dining in or around Wilhelminastraat has USED this vacant lot. By chance, it became known that AIB would be turning the empty lot into a walled & sealed-in parking lot for the exclusive use of the bank, with absolutely no public access. CMB and Aruba Bank, both in the city center, allow downtown patrons access to their parking lot, especially after working hours. But after many emails and unanswered calls the AIB lot has been selfishly deemed: For Bank Employees Only! Do Not Enter. AIB seems to have determined that the local business community does not matter and will be putting up another wall to the community, sticking its finger in the face of inclusion rather than being attentive to the needs and support of its neighboring merchants.

Shame on you AIB for being so insensitive and non-communicative to those surrounding you who have helped build you into the bank you are today; this is really not a proper way to represent the business community. Sorry AIB, not a nice way to represent and support the downtown business community.

- Another concerned downtown merchant.

Coming in the New Year with dance festivities!



PALM BEACH - Kozlov Dance International, USA, will present New Year's Gala on Saturday, January 1st @ 9:00pm and Sunday, January 2nd @ :00pm in the ballroom of the Occidental Hotel. The New Year's Gala will feature excerpts from the holiday classic allet, The Nutcracker, as well as Leonid Kozlov's lavish production f the fairytale, The Firebird. The performances are sure to delight ith stunning costumes and scenery direct from the Bolshoi Theater orkshop in Moscow, Russia and the stellar dancing by Kozlov



Dance

International dancers.

usband and wife, Leonid and Adriana Kozlov, who direct Kozlov Dance international, will star in the production. Leonid Kozlov, a rincipal dancer with the Bolshoi Ballet in Russia, New York City allet, and Broadway star has been presenting top quality productions n Aruba for the past 4 years, bring world renowned dancers to perform or Aruban audiences.

Joining the production this January is Albert Davydov, principal dancer with the New Jersey Ballet. Albert began his ballet training n Russia. He has traveled extensively as a guest artist performing in Europe and the US. He has won numerous prizes at prestigious international ballet competitions. Mr. Davydov will partner, the talented Sofie Greenbaum, in the crowd pleasing Flames of Paris pas de deux. Ms. Greenbaum is the recent gold medalist at the Sixth Youth Dance Festival of NJ. Rounding out the cast is a talented group of dancers from Kozlov Dance International performing in The Firebird and Nutcracker Suite as well as dancers from the Club di Movimiento of mAruba, performing a stellar contemporary piece, entitled "Earth".

Tickets for the performances are available at the concierges desk at the Occidental Hotel or at the Van Dorp Bookstores (Caya Milo Croes, Holiday Inn, Divi Resort).

For more information visit our website www.dancearuba.com. □



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Ruth's Chris Steak House Pampers Facebook Fans



PALM BEACH – Recently, Ruth's Chris Steak House Aruba situated at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino, enticed their Facebook fans with a fabulous promotion to dine at the well famed steak house. The first fifteen Facebook fans that booked a dinner reservation at Ruth's Chris for the next day benefit of a 50% discount on

their final bill.

"The Facebook promotion is something new that we wanted to try out and we have received great responses", says Restaurant Manager Christie Roelofsen, "I look forward to try more Facebook promotions in the near future." For several fans, the initiative created an opportunity to try Ruth's Chris Steak House

for the first time. They were impressed with the impeccable food and service. Ruth's Chris Steak House Aruba invites everyone to become on Facebook fan by visiting www.facebook.com/RuthsChrisSteakHouseAruba and take advantage of the upcoming offers.

Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino boasts 411 guestrooms -- the most spacious on the island -- each with large, private balconies overlooking lush landscape and the sparkling waters of the Caribbean Sea. On property, seven restaurants and cafes provide fare from light to elegant, while the largest casino in Aruba, a 6,500 square-foot spa, free-form swimming pool with



cascading waterfalls and high-energy health club offer entertaining diversions.

MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, INC. is a leading lodging company with more than 3,400 lodging properties in 68 countries and territories. The company is headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, USA and had approximately 137,000 employees at 2009 year-end.

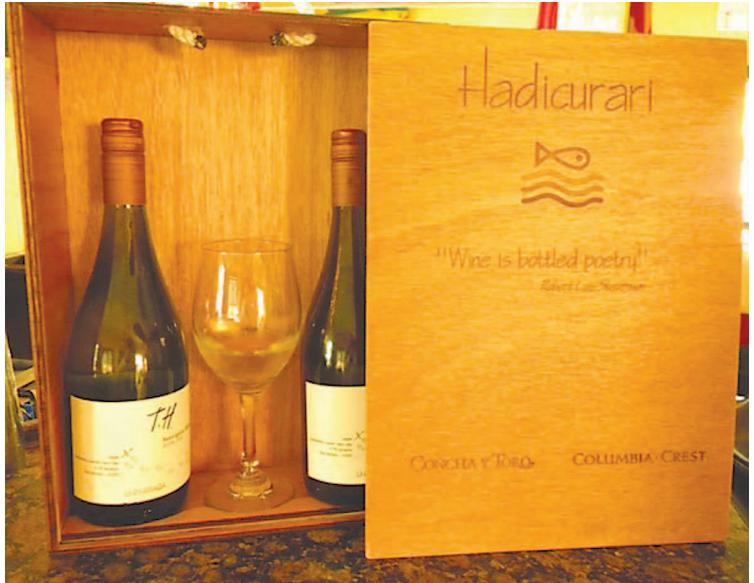
It is recognized by FORTUNE as one of the best companies to work for, and by Newsweek as one of the greenest big companies in America. In fiscal year 2009, Marriott International reported sales from continuing operations of nearly \$11 billion.

In the pictures: Facebook fans of Ruth's Chris Steak House enjoying their dinner at Ruth's Chris Steak House □



'Wine is bottled poetry'

Hadicurari Restaurant launches unique wine list



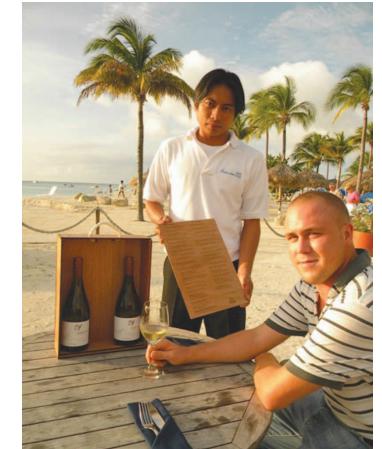
Hadicurari, the lovely beach side restaurant with a harbor view on the high rise strip, has something new: a most unusual wine list. Not only are the wines exceptionally good, but the way they are presented is very nice indeed. So what is it? Mark Reiman, manager of Hadicurari, explains: "It is a wooden box with a sliding front. On this front

is written 'Wine is bottled poetry', a saying of Robert Louis Stevenson as well as the Hadicurari logo and the name of sponsors Concha y Toro and Columbia Crest. The back side lists our whites, reds and blush wines, which hail from the best wineries all over the globe." Mark continues: "But now comes the trick: inside the box is enough space for two

bottles and a glass. After the guest has been seated by the hostess and the menu has been presented, a waiter comes to the table with the box in which the Wine of the Month has been placed. A sample of that wine has been poured into a glass, so the guest can try it. These Wines of the Month are not on the wine list. Actually, the box is a friendly way to try and sell more wines." The wine list, which has been burned into the wood, has been divided into white wines by the bottle, like Pinot Grigio, Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay and Riesling and wines made from other white grapes. Each variety lists three wines: one which has a very good price-quality ratio, one which is a truly excellent wine and a superb wine. Then there are champagnes and sparkling wines and red wines like the Pinot Noir, Merlot, Cabernet Sauvignon



and others like the Shiraz, Rioja, Chianti and Zinfandel and several blush wines. All the wines can also be ordered by the glass. The best wines, like the Livio Felluga from Italy, the Cakebread from the Napa Valley, the Louis Jadot Pouilly-Fuissé from France and the South African Rust en Vrede, the Rodney Strong from the Russian River, the Kunde Estate, Sonoma Valley are truly exceptional. "Connoisseurs will lick their whiskers in anticipation



when they see our list," says manager Mark, who also tells us that the box has been made by expert carpenter Arjan of Cowichan. "I am sure of that." 'Life is much too short to drink bad wines', quotes the unusual Hadicurari wine list. It is a quote by a wise man, Bernulf Bruckner. At Hadicurari Restaurant, specialized in fish dishes and located between the Marriott Ocean Club and MooMba Beach, next to the Holiday Inn Resort, they know that. □

At Casa Tua Barcelona

Dinner is always a Genuine Spanish Experience

And Don't Miss the Special Shows



ORANJESTAD - hat a surprise!!! This old warehouse transformed into a typical Spanish or Italian town's square, with its gurgling fountain, French lamp-post and lime-washed walls features an open Pizza Atelier, under a small country hut, covered with old hand-made roof tiles.

Opened downtown Oranjestad two years ago, the restaurant dishes reflect this inter-cultural relationship of Spanish, French and Italian cuisine,

all served in a friendly, casual setting. On the menu, a wide variety of Spanish Tapas, appetizers starting at \$2.95, and plentiful Paellas, made daily, filled with mussels, clams, shrimp, pork loin and chicken. The menu also boasts famous Pata Negra ham, Chorizo, and other specialty dry-cured pork sausage.

Naturally, the restaurant's whole Grilled Red Snapper, fresh fish fillets and beef tenderloins are all cooked "A la "Plancha," with just a sprinkle of olive oil, representing a healthy Mediterranean life-style. Thanks to Aram Belda, a native from Valencia (Spain) and chef at Casa Tua Barcelona. Patrons also favor the restaurant irresistible thin-crust pizza, baked according to a secret family recipe, topped with Casa Tua infused spicy olive oil, a signature condiment for Casa Tua restaurants on the Island.

To complete this Spanish experience and make it truly unforgettable, La Tita, a local flamenco bailarina will perform this Wednesday from 8pm.

Special food combos are available for lunch weekdays, starting at \$8.95 p/p. Birthday parties? Wedding Rehearsal Dinners? Family Reunions, we love those, and always take very good care of our guests! □



Glittering holiday gala for The Westin Resort & Casino Aruba associates



PALM BEACH - This past Wednesday evening, the associates and management of The Westin Resort & Casino Aruba held their annual holiday dinner gala. The year-end gala is always a grand affair to remember for the resort staff, and this year was no exception.

The event was held in the Palm Beach Ballroom with grand buffets of traditional holiday fare, including rum-glazed ham, turkey with all the

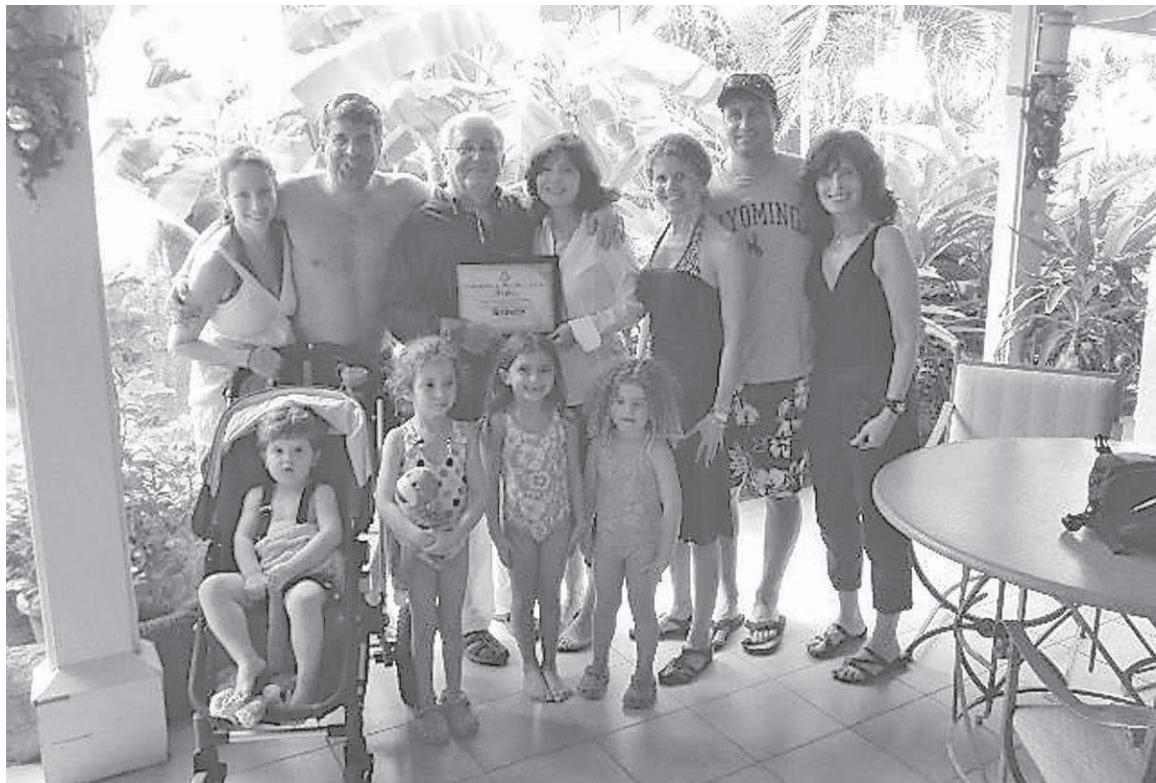
trimmings, and local favorite ayacas, for guests to graze over, while live music and dancing to Zeta Band and Metropolis deejay took over the ballroom.

The holiday gala is just one of many events coordinated for associates throughout the year--softball tournaments, soccer matches, and family days

are some of the many fun activities enjoyed. Team work, comradery, and respect are essential ingredients to the culture of the resort, and these activities organized outside of work are instrumental in bringing the associates from a cross-section of all departments together in a fun, relaxed, and festive atmosphere. It is surely part of why Wetsin Resort & Casino Aruba is heralded as a leader in employee satisfaction and retention on the island.



Special friends honored at the Costa Linda Resort



EAGLE BEACH - Recently at the Costa Linda Resort vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded

the Ambassador of goodwill title. The recent honorings were effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Costa Linda Resort, where they call their home away from home. Phil & Barbara Ellerin, were honored as Ambassadors of Goodwill for the Island of Aruba after coming to Aruba for 30 years. Pictured: Phil & Barbara together with family members at Costa Linda Resort. □

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Orange Chicken	\$ 9.95
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Crispy Orange Shrimp	\$ 14.95

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Appetizer Wonton Soup or Lettuce Wrap Entree



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HUMAN HINTS

Judgment Is Holographic Glue

The only power the player has in the illusion is to not care about it. If we don't judge what the illusion brings, it holds no power over us. If we know it is a game, we will feel safe, let go and have fun. Fun exploration of the physical realm is the only point of our lives.

We judge because we feel like something is wrong within our hologram. When we want to change, fix or improve the hologram, we think we know better than our Expanded Self.

Remember this. If you are aware of it, expanded self put it there. If you are aware of something, your expanded self wrote it into your personal illusion, specifically and purposefully for you as the player, down to the tiniest detail.

Expanded Self doesn't make mistakes, so every tiny detail of your life is absolutely perfect for you. When we judge our lives, we resist the journey our Expanded Self has created for us. Our judgment is the glue that holds the holographic patterns together. Without our judgment, the illusion of our lives is like free-flowing water. When we judge the illusion, it becomes solid ice.

One reason we tend to repeat the same negative patterns is that our judgment solidifies them. Without our judgment, the holographic illusion holds no power over us. When we genuinely stop caring, the energy of the old pattern disintegrates and transforms into something new for us to explore. That is Personal Growth.

Go to www.HumanHints.com to sign up to receive this column in your email each day.

~Quentin Danziger

Quentin has over 20 years experience balancing what we refer to as the Real World, with science and spirit. He has held positions of responsibility and authority, received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics from Colorado School of Mines, and has studied many avenues of alternative thought. HumanHints is the culmination of his knowledge, experience and practice. These free daily emails detail concrete, real-world techniques to consciously create any future you chose, while in the throes of daily life created by outdated modes of thought.

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FCC and Internet broadband: Why a rush to regulate?

Like a shape-shifting, color-switching octopus, the Internet continues to transform itself as rapidly as it transforms the world. Many consumers, for instance, are now "cutting the cord" to old broadband providers such as cable TV in favor of wireless networks offering speedier access known as 4G.

With so much competition, freedom, and fluidity in the Web universe, it's hard to believe the Federal Communications Commission may vote Tuesday on a largely secret proposal to impose tough strictures on the Internet.

Both a federal court and a large bipartisan group of US lawmakers warned the FCC last spring not to presume it has legal authority over the Internet. But that didn't stop Chairman Julius Genachowski from proposing this month that the agency regulate the Web as if it were a communication cartel.

A vote may not take place if the chairman can't get two other FCC commissioners on the five-member board to go along. Whatever happens, the FCC must send such proposals to Congress where they can be better measured against other ideas about the government's role in the ever-changing Internet.

Mr. Genachowski's proposal would punish Internet service providers such as Comcast if they block lawful content on their lines – a problem that doesn't really exist right now – to favor one of its own content providers. It doesn't go as far as his earlier proposal that would have imposed draconian "Net neutrality," in which a cable or satellite provider must remain neutral on allowing any content on its Net service.

But the proposal is a start, a sort of regulation lite, that would set down a marker for FCC

control over the Internet, perhaps to give government a strong role in its expansion.

The FCC chairman was able to win support from the traditional Internet providers by also including a proposal to allow them to start charging more for big users of broadband such as YouTube, or "paid prioritization." Cellphone service providers are already moving toward tiered pricing plans for Internet data. The "wireline" carriers, which see companies like Netflix taking up as much as one-fifth of bandwidth for movies, want to move to a similar system. But the issue isn't really Net neutrality or pricing schemes, but when and how government should try to restrict a fast-moving technology that, if not done with care, could stifle competition, innovation, and access. Ever since the early 1990s, when the Internet became open to the public, Congress has largely taken a hands-off approach. A presumption that the Internet is a settled industry, in which giant companies will not be broadsided by upstart competitors or by new technologies, is a dangerous arrogance for government to take. Even defining the Internet is still a work in progress.

Its very nature puts so much power in the hands of consumers to flee from abusive companies – or damage them – that traditional ideas about government protection must be questioned. Consumers should be wary of any action at this point that tries to balance the competing interests of service providers and content providers.

A moving market like the Internet should not become an immovable target for FCC rulemaking. □

The New Trend in Temporary Employment

WASHINGTON, DC – Many U.S. businesses, operating in a climate of economic uncertainty, are hiring more temporary workers but not offering them full-time positions, Motoko Rich of The New York Times reports.

The trend raises concerns that the workplace is undergoing a structural transformation in which short-term employees becomes a more deeply rooted segment of the labor force. While temporary workers are in better shape than the unemployed, Rich explains, they often don't enjoy the benefits, job security, and career development that full-time employees do, nor do they have as easy of a time saving money.

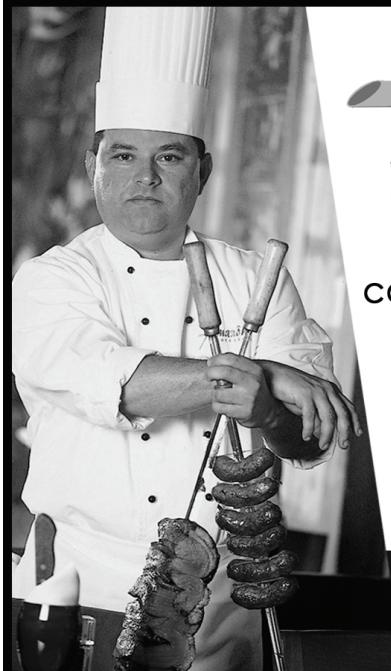
Around a quarter of all jobs added this year by private sector employers were

temporary positions, Rich notes, compared with 10.9 percent in the comparable period following the recession of the early 1990s and 7.1 percent following the economic downturn earlier this decade.

Commentators are parsing the findings in different ways: U.S. Is Following Japan Down a Troubling Road, states Yves Smith at Naked Capitalism. Like America, Japan is experiencing the rise of "freeters," or temporary workers, though, in Japan, the problem is primarily affecting college graduates. She continues:

As with Japan, the long term implications of this trend are not good: employers providing lower-quality employment; workers attaining less in the way of skills, which

puts them on a permanently weaker career path; the resulting lower income workers less able to build up economic reserves in an era of weakening safety nets ... With far fewer social inhibitions against turning employees into temps, we can expect to see an even further hollowing out of the US economy. What Is Incentivizing Employers? "With temporary workers," says Joel Mathis at Cup O'Joel, "they get all the production but without the same levels of pay, and certainly without having to pay so much for benefits ... The downside of that, of course, is that the economy won't get moving again until people start wanting to consume again. If you're in a 'temp' job, what will be your capacity or inclination to spend?" □



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Stark challenges ahead for Iraq's new government

LARA JAKES

REBECCA SANTANA

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq seated a freely elected government Tuesday after nine months of haggling, bringing together the main ethnic and religious groups in a fragile balance that could make it difficult to rebuild a nation devastated by war as American troops prepare for their final withdrawal.

One of the government's first priorities will be to decide whether to ask the Obama administration to keep thousands of U.S. soldiers in Iraq after their scheduled departure in December 2011.

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's new government solidifies the grip that Shiites have held on political power since Saddam Hussein's ouster. It leaves open the question

of whether the country's disgruntled Sunni minority will play a meaningful role. Despite tortuous negotiations that threatened to unravel the country's tenuous democratic gains, the public face of the new government will look remarkably like the outgoing one. The prime minister, president and foreign minister will remain the same. The outcome was a huge victory for al-Maliki, who has made more than his share of enemies as prime minister since May 2006. Parliament originally tapped al-Maliki as a compromise candidate to lead Iraq following tumultuous elections in December 2005 during the height of the war.

The new government was

sworn in Tuesday immediately

after the Iraqi parliament

voted to approve 34 Cabinet

ministers including al-



Iraq's Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki speaks to the Iraqi lawmakers before submitting his new government for approval in Baghdad, Iraq, Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010. Iraqi lawmakers unanimously approved on Tuesday a new government to be headed by incumbent Shiite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, ending nine months of political deadlock that threatened to stall economic development and suck the country back into sectarian violence.

Associated Press

Britain, Russia expel diplomats in espionage spat

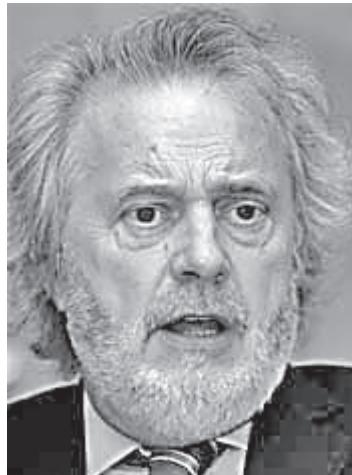
LONDON (AP) — Britain expelled a Russian diplomat suspected of spying Tuesday, and Russia responded by expelling a Briton in the latest skirmish in a long-running spat over espionage.

Foreign Secretary William Hague said Britain had asked the Russian Embassy in London to withdraw a staff member on Dec. 10 "in response to clear evidence of activities by the Russian intelligence services against U.K. interests."

Russia, in return, expelled a diplomat from the British Embassy in Moscow.

"We reject any basis for this action," Hague said in a statement. The two staff left their posts in London and Moscow on Monday night, his office said.

A British government official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Russian officers had "crossed the line" of what was deemed acceptable. The official declined to expand, but insisted that the British diplomat had no ties to Britain's intelligence community. □



May 22 2007 photo of British Liberal Democrat MP Mike Hancock who has denied his Russian assistant was a spy after security services arrested her on suspicion of espionage, it was reported Sunday Dec. 5, 2010.

Associated Press

Maliki. The remainder of the 44-member Cabinet is made up of acting ministers who will be replaced at a later date because of ongoing disputes among coalition partners.

President Barack Obama praised Iraq for building an inclusive coalition that he described as "a clear rejection of the efforts by extremists to spur sectarian division."

Al-Maliki hailed what he called a unified but diverse government, the creation of which was "the most difficult task in the world." But even as he praised the new government, al-Maliki hinted at its weakness: the need to include all the major political factions as a way to preserve

stability at the expense of efficiency. "There were people whose parties have only one or two seats and even they were demanding a ministry," al-Maliki said. "So I know that nobody is satisfied with me." Indeed, two groups blasted the new Cabinet even before it was sworn in. The Kurdish splinter Goran party, which has only eight lawmakers, said it should have gotten more than the one Cabinet post it was offered and threatened to boycott the government. And women lawmakers jeered the male-dominated political parties for largely excluding them from the Cabinet though they make up a quarter of parliament. □

U.S. approves sanctions against Ivory Coast's Gbagbo

MARCO CHOWN OVED

Associated Press

ABIDJAN, Ivory Coast (AP) — The United States approved travel sanctions on Laurent Gbagbo and 30 of his allies Tuesday as pressure mounted on the incumbent leader to step down following last month's presidential election that the international community says he lost.

Meanwhile, the U.N. refugee agency said that some 6,200 people already have fled the West African country's postelection violence, and regional leaders called on Gbagbo to "yield power with dignity without further delay." The rebuke from neighboring nations carries added weight because Gbagbo's representatives have dismissed similar calls from former colonizer France and other Western nations as foreign interference.

The regional bloc, ECOWAS, also said Gbagbo's weekend demand that thousands of

U.N. peacekeepers leave the volatile country "would further heighten tensions and worsen the plight of the vulnerable."

The U.N. has certified Alassane Ouattara as the winner of the Nov. 28 vote, and Gbagbo on Saturday ordered the nearly 9,000 U.N. peacekeepers leave immediately. The U.N. has refused to do so, and a Security Council resolution adopted unanimously Monday extended the force's mandate until June 30, 2011.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon warned Tuesday that Ivory Coast faces "a real risk" of return to civil war.

He said the U.N. peacekeeping force in Ivory Coast has "confirmed that mercenaries, including freelance former combatants from Liberia, have been recruited to target certain groups in the population."

He said forces loyal to Gbagbo are also obstructing the movement of U.N. personnel and their operations and called



UN forces patrol outside the UN headquarters in Ivory Coast, Abidjan, Ivory Coast, Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010. The U.N. Security Council extended its peacekeeping mission in Ivory Coast on Monday, hours after the United Nations' top envoy in the West African country said armed men had been threatening staff in their homes. Incumbent President Laurent Gbagbo's refusal to concede defeat in last month's election and his demand that peacekeepers leave have raised fears that U.N. personnel and other foreigners could be targeted in violence.

on member states to do what they can to supply the U.N. mission.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton has authorized travel sanctions against members of Gbagbo's government, a U.S. official said Tuesday.

William Fitzgerald, the U.S. deputy assistant secretary

for African affairs, said the move initially concerns about 30 people, though he could not give their names, in accordance with U.S. law. He said the travel sanctions take effect immediately.

The children and close family members of Gbagbo backers can also be deported from the United States, for example if

Associated Press

they are studying or interning there, he said. A senior adviser to Gbagbo confirmed earlier this month that Gbagbo's stepdaughters — the children of the first lady — are believed to be living in the Atlanta area. There is also the further possibility of later trade sanctions against individuals, Fitzgerald said. □

Palestinians, Israelis trade rockets, airstrikes

prospect of a new round of bloody fighting after a relative lull for two years.

The military said the Israeli strikes hit seven different targets in Gaza. Palestinian officials said eight militants were wounded. Then the Palestinians fired another rocket at southern Israel, lightly wounding a 16-year-old Israeli girl.

The violence followed the deaths of five Gaza militants Saturday in the deadliest Israeli assault on the coastal strip in months, indicating a trend of escalation. Two years ago, incessant rocket barrages from Gaza led Israel to launch a punishing three-week invasion that left more than 1,400 Palestinians dead, including many civilians.

In another sign of increasing tension, the Israeli military chief, Lt. Gen. Gabi Ashkenazi, said Tuesday's strikes were the first to target Gaza's ruling

Hamas since the invasion. The military said the attacks were in response to the firing of 13 rockets and mortars at Israel over the past week. Appearing before parliament's foreign affairs and defense committee, he described the situation as potentially "fragile and explosive." Until recently, militant attacks from Gaza had subsided dramatically since Israel's offensive in late 2008. Although Hamas, the Islamic militant group that rules Gaza, has limited attacks on Israel since then, Israel holds the group responsible for all attacks from the territory. A number of smaller militant groups have continued to fire rockets and mortars.

The military said Tuesday's airstrikes targeted a weapons factory and smuggling tunnels. It said some of the tunnels were designed to allow militants to infiltrate into Israel. □



A wounded Palestinian prays as he lies in the treatment room of Al Najar hospital following an Israeli air strike on a Hamas military training camp, in Rafah, southern Gaza Strip, Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010. The Israeli air force hit suspected militant sites in the Gaza Strip repeatedly in the course of Tuesday, leaving several Palestinians injured.

Associated Press

AMY TEIBEL

Associated Press

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel on Tuesday launched an unusually heavy series of airstrikes on Gaza in retaliation for Palestinian rocket attacks, raising the

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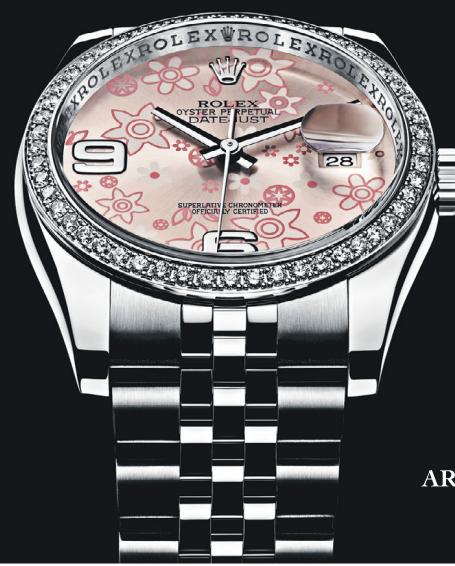
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S. Korean Christmas tree sign of new propaganda war

LEE JIN-MAN

Associated Press

GIMPO, South Korea (AP)

— As troops stood guard and a choir sang carols Tuesday, South Koreans lit a massive steel Christmas tree that overlooks the world's most heavily armed border and is within sight of atheist North Korea.

The lighting of the tree after a seven-year hiatus marked a pointed return to a tradition condemned in Pyongyang as propaganda. The provocative ceremony — which must receive government permission — was also a sign that President Lee Myung-bak's administration is serious about countering the North's aggression with measures of its own in the wake of an artillery attack that killed four South Koreans last month.

While the North has made some conciliatory gestures in recent days — indicating to a visiting U.S. governor that it might allow international inspections of its nuclear programs — Seoul appears unmoved.

Pyongyang has used a combination of aggression and reconciliation before to extract concessions from the international community, and the resurrection of the tree lighting at Aegibong is a signal that the South is ready to play hardball until it sees real change from the North. Earlier, a South Korean destroyer prowled the sea and fighter jets tore across the skies in preparation for possible North Korean attacks a day after Seoul held a round of artillery drills from a front-

line island.

After warning of deadly retaliation, North Korea said it would not deign to fight back, and indicated to visiting New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson that it was prepared to consider ways to work with the South on restoring security along the tense border.

But a senior South Korean government official said the military would remain prepared for the possibility of a "surprise" attack in coming days. He spoke on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the matter.

On Aegibong Peak, about a mile (less than two kilometers) from the Demilitarized Zone that divides the Korean peninsula, marines toting rifles circled the Christmas tree as more than 100,000 twinkling lights blinked on. The brightly lit tree — with a cross on top — stood in stark relief to North Korea, where electricity is limited.

Choir members dressed in white robes trimmed in blue and wearing red scarves and Santa Claus hats gathered beneath the steel structure draped with multicolored lights, illuminated stars and snowflakes. An audience of about 200 listened as they sang "Joy to the World" and other Christmas carols.

"I hope that Christ's love and peace will spread to the North Korean people," said Lee Young-hoon, a pastor of the Seoul church that organized the lighting ceremony. About 30 percent of South Koreans are Christian.

The 100-foot-tall steel tree sits on a peak high enough



A 100-foot-tall steel Christmas tree is lit at the western mountain peak known as Aegibong in Gimpo, South Korea, Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010. The Christmas lights went on again for the first time in seven years.

for North Koreans living in border towns to see it and well within reach of their nation's artillery. Defense Minister Kim Kwan-jin said an attack from North Korea was certainly possible but unlikely.

North Korea, officially atheist and with only a handful of sanctioned churches in Pyongyang with services for foreigners, warned that lighting the tree would constitute a "dangerous, rash act" with the potential to trigger a war.

As a precaution, dozens of armed troops took up position around the site during the lighting ceremony. Ambulances and fire trucks were parked nearby. Instructions placed on chairs at the ceremony advised participants to take cover in case of an attack from North

Korea.

"The danger of the enemy's threat still exists," the leaflet read, suggesting that they hide behind concrete walls,

crouch down between chairs and move quickly to shelters in case of an attack.

The event took place uninterrupted. □

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Aruba TODAY



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On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com Website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: 582-7800 Wednesday, December 22, 2010

AP NewsBreak:

Yankees hit with \$18M luxury tax

By RONALD BLUM

AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — The New York Yankees lowered spending on players by \$12 million this year, cutting payroll by \$5 million and slashing their major league-leading luxury tax by more than \$7 million. New York was hit with an \$18 million luxury tax Tuesday by Major League Baseball. The tax was New York's lowest since 2003 and down from \$25.7 million last year, when the Yankees won the World Series.

"Atta baby. And right now we're in the \$170s," Yankees general manager Brian Cashman said, looking ahead to his 2011 payroll.

Season-ending payroll information and the tax was sent to teams Tuesday and obtained by The Associated Press.

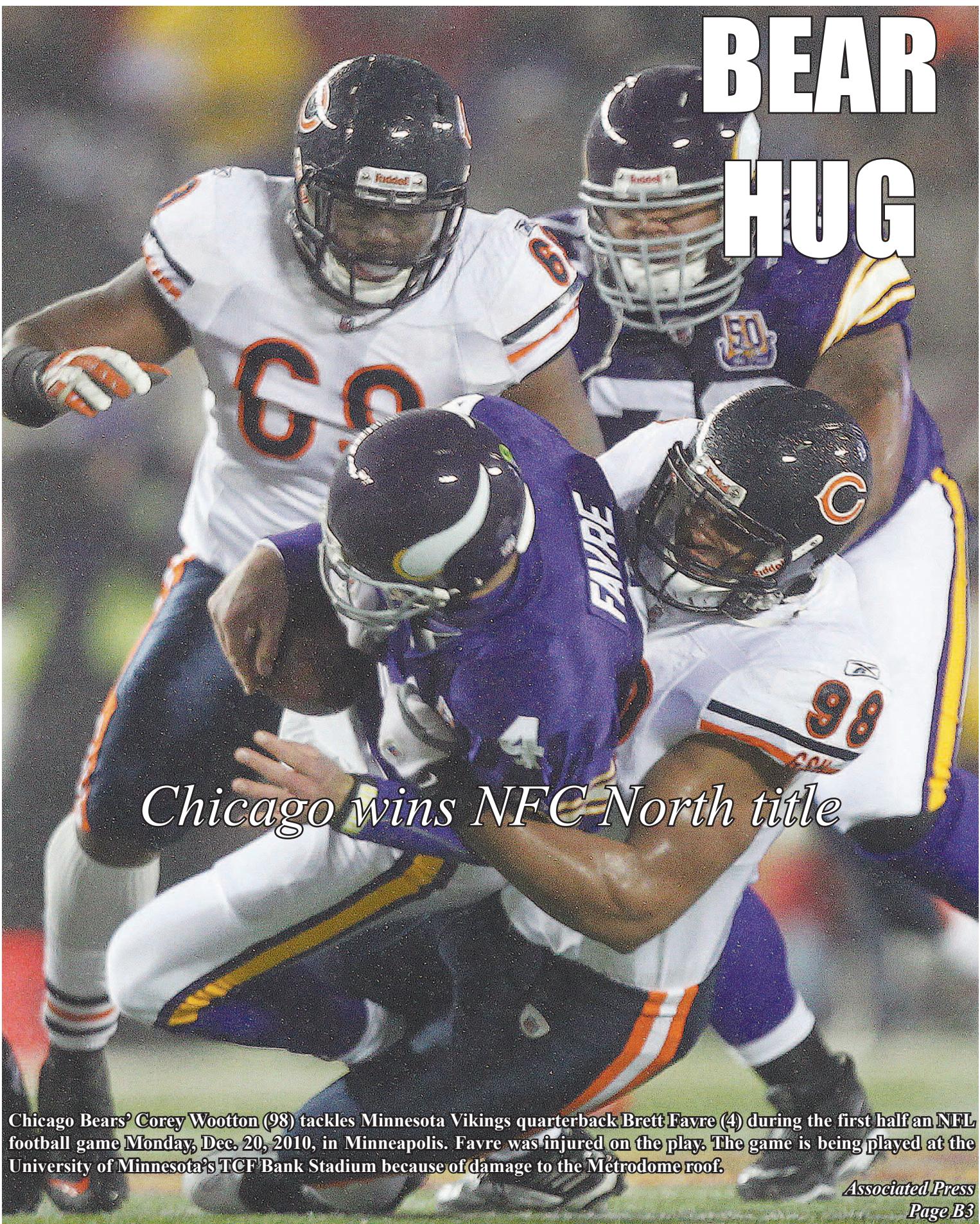
Boston is the only other team that will have to pay. The Red Sox, who missed the playoffs this year, exceeded the payroll threshold for the first time since 2007 and owe \$1.49 million.

According to the collective bargaining agreement, the Yankees and Red Sox must send checks to the commissioner's office by Jan. 31.

Red Sox president Larry Lucchino declined comment.

Since the current tax began in 2003, the Yankees have run up a bill of \$192.2 million. The only other teams to pay are Boston (\$15.34 million), Detroit (\$1.3 million) and the Los Angeles Angels (\$927,000).

Continued on Page B2



Mavs end Heat's 12-game win streak

Dallas Mavericks' Shawn Marion, left, congratulates Jason Terry after Terry scored against the Miami Heat in the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game in Miami, Monday, Dec. 20, 2010. The Mavericks won 98-96.

Associated Press
Page B4



Team payrolls

Final 2010 payrolls for the 30 Major League Baseball teams.

American	National
All figures in millions of dollars	
Yankees	226.2
Red Sox	170.7
Phillies	145.5
Cubs	142.4
Tigers	135.9
Mets	127.6
Angels	123.5
White Sox	112.2
Dodgers	109.8
Twins	103.0
Giants	101.4
Cardinals	98.4
Brewers	94.6
Mariners	93.4
Astros	90.1
Braves	89.2
Rockies	88.0
Blue Jays	86.8
Reds	82.5
Rays	77.5
Royals	76.8
Rangers	74.3
Orioles	73.2
Nationals	71.9
D-backs	70.5
A's	61.8
Indians	60.5
Marlins	47.3
Pirates	44.1
Padres	43.7
Total: \$2.9 billion	

SOURCE: Major League Baseball AP

LUXURY TAX*Continued from Page B1*

New York's payroll was \$215.1 million for the purpose of the luxury tax, down from \$226.2 million, and the Yankees pay at a 40 percent

rate for the amount over the threshold, which rose from \$162 million to \$170 million. Boston's luxury-tax payroll was \$176.6 million, and the Red Sox pay at a 22.5 percent rate.

"We're doing a better job of managing our payroll and managing our decision-making as we enter the free-agent market," Cashman said. "Our payroll doesn't necessarily have to live at that level, but it's nice to know that our owners are committed to allow us to get there if we need to."

To compute the payroll, Major League Baseball uses the average annual values of contracts for players on 40-man rosters and adds benefits. The Yankees failed to land free-agent pitcher Cliff Lee despite being given permission from ownership to make a \$150 million, seven-year offer. Lee agreed to a \$120 million, five-year deal with Philadelphia.

"We weren't going to exceed where we were this past year,

but the bottom line is that now that the Lee thing has declared itself, it would be hard-pressed for us to get up to that level," Cashman said.

While the Yankees are stocked with high-salaried veterans, Cashman has mixed in young players in recent years such as Phil Hughes, Joba Chamberlain and Brett Gardner.

"You need a strong farm system that prevents you from being desperate in the free-agent market," Cashman said. "You don't want to be desperate in the free-agent market, because you'll get slaughtered."

New York's payroll under the conventional method of calculation — salaries and prorated shares of signing bonuses — dropped from \$222.5 million in 2008 to \$220 million last year to \$215.1 million this season.

Boston's payroll rose by \$30.2 million to \$170.7 million. The \$44.4 million between the Yankees and Red Sox was larger than the payrolls of San

Diego (\$43.7 million) and Pittsburgh (\$44.1 million).

After moving into Target Field, Minnesota's payroll also went up by \$30 million, leaving the Twins 10th in the majors at \$103 million. Cincinnati increased its payroll by \$9.8 million to \$82.5 million.

Florida raised its payroll by \$9.8 million to \$47.3 million after an agreement by the Marlins with the players' association last January to increase spending. Florida moves into a new ballpark in 2012.

The Los Angeles Dodgers cut payroll by a major league-high \$21.8 million to \$109.8 million as owners Frank and Jamie McCourt argued in divorce proceedings. Houston dropped by \$17.9 million to \$90.1 million and the New York Mets by \$14.7 million to \$127.6 million. Cleveland cut \$16.7 million to \$60.5 million. The Yankees, Phillies (third at \$145.5 million), Twins and the World Series champion San Francisco Giants (11th at \$101.4 million) were the only

teams from the top half by payroll to make the playoffs.

AL champion Texas was 22nd at \$74.3 million. Joining the Rangers in the postseason from the bottom half by spending were Atlanta (16th at \$89.2 million), Cincinnati (19th) and Tampa Bay (20th at \$77.5 million).

Overall payroll dropped by \$2.3 million to \$2.912 billion. Payroll figures are for 40-man rosters and include salaries and prorated shares of signing bonuses, earned incentive bonuses, non-cash compensation, buyouts of unexercised options and cash transactions, such as money included in trades. In some cases, parts of salaries that are deferred are discounted to reflect present-day values.

The commissioner's office computed the average salary at \$2,932,162, up 1.7 percent from last year's \$2,882,336. The players' association, which uses a slightly different method, pegged the average at \$3,014,572 last week, up 0.6 percent from \$2,996,106. □

Federer beats Nadal to open exhibition series

ZURICH (AP) — Roger Federer beat Rafael Nadal 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 on Tuesday to open a two-match exhibition series for charity between the world's best tennis players. Federer sealed victory on Nadal's serve with a backhand crosscourt return for a winner in front of 10,000 spectators at the sold-out Hallenstadion indoor arena.

It was the first time they have played each other in Federer's native Switzerland. The match raised money for the Roger Federer Foundation which backs educational work with children in Africa. It currently supports projects in Ethiopia, Malawi, Tanzania,

Zimbabwe and his mother's native South Africa.

"This is a special match for me, which I will remember forever," Federer said. "I'm just so proud and so happy that we all made it work."

The friendly rivals travel to Madrid on Wednesday for a return match in Nadal's home country in support of the Rafael Nadal Foundation. "It was an unforgettable experience. I'm very happy to be part of this event," Nadal said.

The good-natured match was the showpiece of a telethon-like event broadcast live by Swiss television.

Swiss sports stars, including Olympic champion cyclist Fabian Cancellara and



Switzerland's Roger Federer, right, and Spain's Rafael Nadal, left, pose for photographers prior to the first exhibition match "Federer/Nadal Match for Africa" in the Hallenstation Arena in Zurich, Switzerland, on Tuesday Dec. 21, 2010. The series of matches, played in Switzerland and Spain, benefit Roger Federer's charitable foundation.

Alpine skier Didier Cuche, helped auction prizes they donated.

Also attending was United States skier Lindsey Vonn. The Olympic women's downhill champion is a fan

and friend of Federer, and arrived in Zurich hours after competing in a World Cup slalom race in Courchevel, France.

In tournament play, Nadal has the advantage with a

Associated Press

14-8 career record against Federer.

The Swiss won their most recent meeting, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1 in the final of the ATP World Tour Finals in London last month. □

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NFL Roundup

Favre injured, Bears beat Vikings to win NFC North

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)

— Brett Favre made a surprising start only to suffer what could be another potentially career-ending injury as his Minnesota Vikings were beaten 40-14 by the Chicago Bears in the NFL on Monday.

Chicago clinched the NFC North title, with Devin Hester setting the NFL record with his 14th kick return touchdown, running back a punt 64 yards for a score shortly after halftime on a frosty, hard-hitting night.

Jay Cutler threw three touchdown passes for the Bears (10-4), who last won this division during their 2006 Super Bowl season. Hester caught one of those scoring passes and also took back the second-half kickoff 79 yards to set up a field goal a few minutes before his game-breaking punt return made it 27-7.

That was Hester's 14th career return touchdown, kickoff or punt, breaking Brian Mitchell's previous mark.

Favre's record streak of starts ended when he sat out last weekend's game, but again showed his remarkable recuperative powers by starting this contest.

The 41-year-old finished 5 for 7 for 63 yards.

He passed his pregame throwing test and trotted out in front of the Minnesota fans one last time, finding Percy Harvin for a 23-yard TD to give the Vikings a 7-0 lead after the opening drive.

Favre managed one more joyful jump on a teammate's back to celebrate a touchdown, piggybacking right guard Ryan Cook before embracing Harvin and raising his left arm in triumph as he jogged off. The vibe didn't last very long.

Henry Melton tipped Favre's pass on the next Minnesota possession, Julius Peppers intercepted it at the 14 and Robbie Gould kicked a field goal.

The next drive was a three-and-out, and Favre had to hustle back and smother the ball after a high snap slipped through his hands. Cutler zipped a 67-yard pass up the sideline over safety Madieu Williams to a streaking Johnny Knox, and the Bears built a 10-7 lead they never lost.

In the second quarter, the Vikings lost Favre — perhaps for good.

Chicago's Corey Wootton got in the backfield and grabbed Favre by his non-throwing shoulder, slamming him toward the cold turf. Favre lay

Chicago Bears' Devin Hester (23) reacts after running back a punt 64-yards for a touchdown during the second half an NFL football game Monday, Dec. 20, 2010, in Minneapolis. The return was Hester's NFL-leading 14th career return for a touchdown. The game is being played at the University of Minnesota's TCF Bank Stadium because of damage to the Metrodome roof.

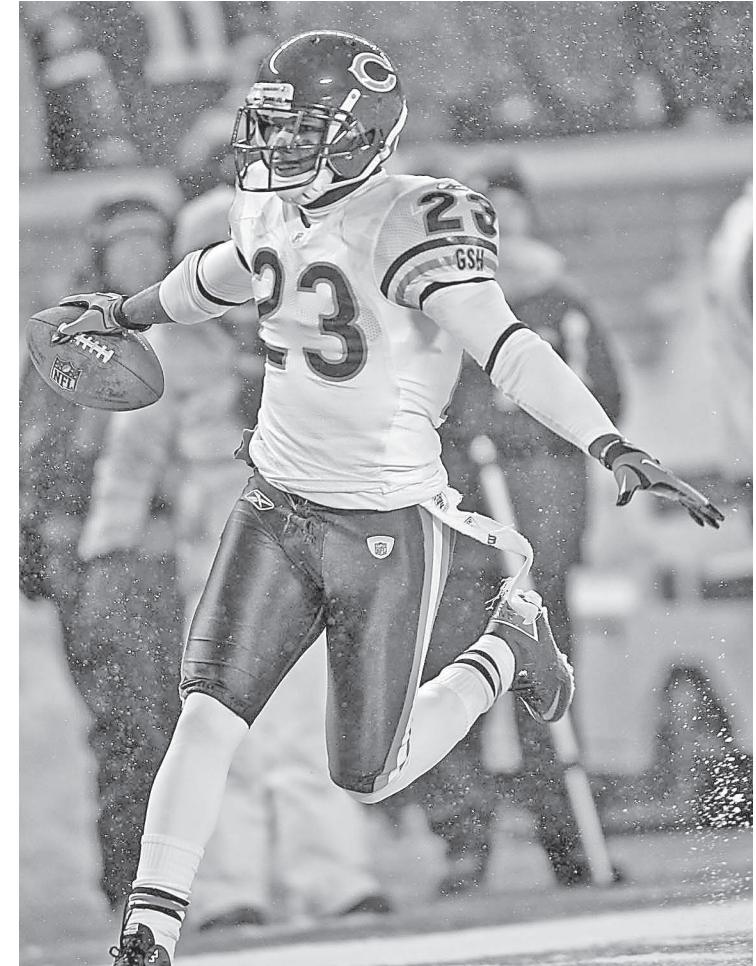
Associated Press

motionless for a few seconds before climbing to his feet and walking off with his head down, and did not return.

Favre repeatedly has said this will be his final season and the Vikings, long out of the playoff race, have just two games left.

Rookie quarterback Joe Webb took over, scoring on a 13-yard scramble to the edge of the end zone to cut the lead to 27-14, but the Bears had their way after putting perhaps the final seal on Favre's storied 20-year career.

With the Metrodome unusable because of a roof collapse, the game got moved to the University of Minnesota. The outdoor TCF Bank Stadium was about 80 percent full, with snowballs flying from the seats — sometimes hitting players — and plenty of frolicking in the flakes. □



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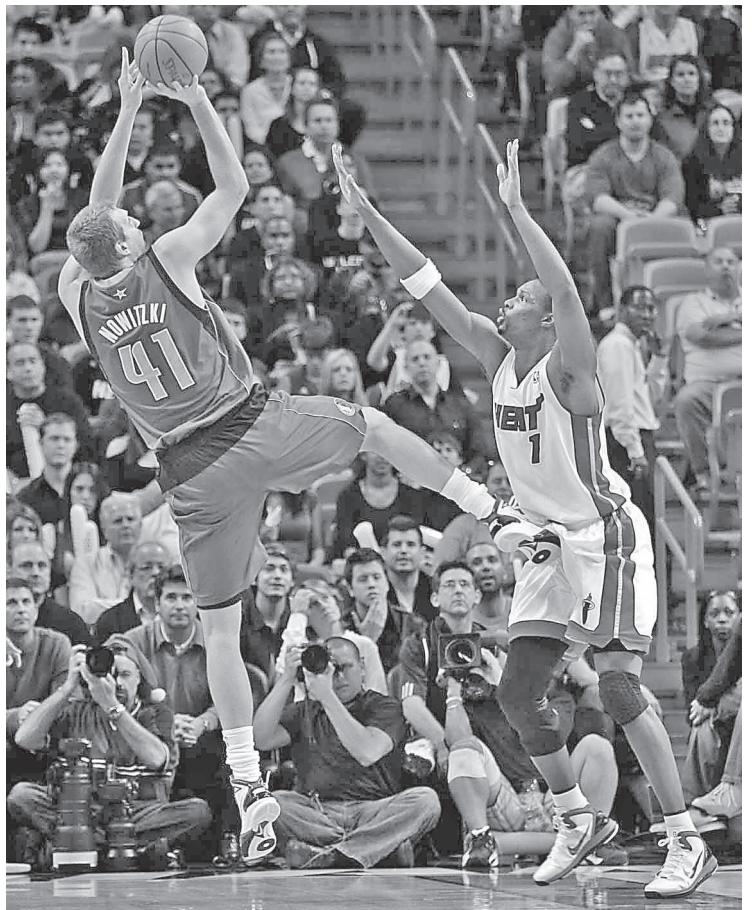


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MIAMI (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks' long NBA dominance of Miami continued Monday despite the Heat's intimidating new team, with the 98-96 result ending Miami's 12-game winning streak.

It was Dallas' 14th straight regular-season victory over Miami, although the Heat did win the match-up in the 2006 NBA finals.

Dirk Nowitzki scored 26 points and Jason Terry hit two big 3-pointers in the final 2½ minutes. Terry finished with 19 for Dallas, which won despite giving up a 17-0 run in the first half and a 13-0 run in the third quarter.

Dwyane Wade scored 22 points to lead Miami.

Spurs 118, Suns 110

In San Antonio, the home team's winning streak reached nine with a victory over undermanned Phoenix.

Tim Duncan had 20 points and 15 rebounds while Gary Neal scored 22 off the bench for the Spurs, who improved the NBA's best record to 24-3 and are one victory from their second double-digit winning streak already this season.

Jared Dudley had 27 points for the Suns, who were still waiting to unite with trade acquisitions Vince Carter, Marcin Gortat and Mickael Pietrus. They're expected to be ready for Phoenix's next game Thursday against Miami.

Hawks 91, Magic 81

In Atlanta, the hosts rolled over reconstructed Orlando.

NBA Roundup

Mavs end Heat's hot streak

Orlando, which hasn't had time to practice since acquiring Gilbert Arenas, Jason Richardson and Hedo Turkoglu on Saturday, struggled to find an offensive flow all night.

After setting a season low with 14 points in the first quarter, the Magic were held without a field goal for the first 8 minutes of the final period as the Hawks lead reached 17. Al Horford scored 24 points to lead Atlanta.

Dwight Howard had 19 points and 20 rebounds, but too little help, for Orlando.

Pacers 94, Hornets 93

In Indianapolis, Mike Dunleavy's tip-in at the buzzer gave Indiana a victory over New Orleans.

The Hornets had taken the lead on a jumper by David West with 3.9 seconds left. Indiana's Danny Granger's long shot rattled around the rim, and Dunleavy was uncontested for the rebound under the hoop. The officials reviewed the play and the basket stood.

Granger led the Pacers with 27 points. Darren Collison scored 18 points in his first game against his old team.

Emeka Okafor had 19 points and 15 rebounds for the Hornets, who lost their sixth straight road game.

Jazz 101, Cavaliers 90

In Cleveland, Utah beat Cleveland, moving coach Jerry Sloan into a tie with Pat

Riley for the third-most wins in NBA history.

Sloan, Utah's coach since 1988, has 1,210 victories. Up next is Lenny Wilkens (1,332) and Don Nelson (1,335). During Sloan's long run, which began before Jazz rookie Gordon Hayward was born, there have been 234 coaching changes across the league.

CJ Miles scored 22 points, Paul Millsap and Raja Bell added 19 apiece as the Jazz improved to 11-1 against Eastern Conference teams.

Daniel Gibson scored a career-high 29 for the Cavaliers, who have lost 11 of 12.

Trail Blazers 106, Bucks 80

In Portland, LaMarcus Aldridge had 29 points and a career-high 19 rebounds as Portland shook off injury problems to rout Milwaukee.

Wesley Matthews added 22 points for the Blazers, who have won three in a row and had only eight players dressed after losing Dante Cunningham four minutes in. John Salmons scored 14 of his 23 points in the third quarter for the Bucks, who have lost three in a row.

In Oakland, Kevin Martin made a tying basket and a go-ahead 3-pointer in crunch time on the way to 30 points as Houston defeated Golden State.

Luis Scola had 20 points with a key late jump hook, nine rebounds and six assists for

the Rockets, who have won five of six.

Golden State's Monta Ellis scored 44 points — nine straight during a key fourth-quarter spurt — for his third 40-point game of the season. He added seven assists, but the Warriors lost for the 14th time in 16 games.

In Washington, the hosts limited Charlotte to one field goal in the third quarter and snapped a seven-game losing streak.

Nick Young scored 21 points for the Wizards, undermanned while No. 1 pick John Wall remained injured and Rashard Lewis was unavailable after coming in a trade from Orlando.

Washington used a 21-2 run to start the third quarter to achieve its biggest victory since 2005-06.

Charlotte set a franchise low by getting only Boris Diaw's layup with 10:13 left in the third.

In Los Angeles, Eric Gordon scored a season-high 36 points as Los Angeles handed Minnesota its sixth straight loss.

Blake Griffin added 22 points and 10 rebounds for the Clipper, who were coming off successive road wins and carried that onto a home court where they had lost three straight.

In other NBA games it was Atlanta 91, Orlando 81; Utah 101, Cleveland 90; Indiana 94, New Orleans 93; Washington 108, Charlotte 75; Dallas 98, Miami 96; San Antonio 118, Phoenix 110; Portland 106, Milwaukee 80; Houston 121, Golden State 112; and L.A. Clippers 113, Minnesota 90.



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NHL Roundup

Evgeni Malkin stars as Penguins down Coyotes

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Evgeni Malkin tied a career high with five points as the Pittsburgh Penguins smashed the Phoenix Coyotes 6-1 in the NHL on Monday. Malkin, who had three goals in two games since returning from missing four contests due to a knee injury, had two goals and three assists — all within the first 27:21 of the game. His five points matched the most by any player this season, becoming the sixth player to achieve the feat. Sidney Crosby extended his scoring streak to 21 games while Kris Letang had a goal and an assist for Pittsburgh. Crosby's point streak is the longest in the NHL this season and one short of the longest since the 2004-05 lockout.

Panthers 5, Flyers 0

In Philadelphia, Tomas Vokoun earned his fourth shutout of the season to help Florida easily beat league-leading Philadelphia.

Rookie Evgeny Dadonov had a goal and an assist, while Bill Thomas, Shawn Matthias, Mike Santorelli and Dmitry Kulikov also scored for the Panthers.

The Flyers lost in regulation for the first time since Dec. 1. Vokoun made 26 saves for his 42nd career shutout and first against the Flyers in 17 starts.

Ducks 3, Bruins 0

In Boston, Jonas Hiller stopped 45 shots for his second shutout of the season as Anaheim defeated Boston.

Brandon McMillan had his first career multipoint game, while Lubomir Visnovsky and Corey Perry also scored for the Ducks.

McMillan, a rookie, doubled his career totals with one goal and one assist. He gave the Ducks the lead less than 6 minutes in.

Canucks 3, Blues 1

In St. Louis, Aaron Volpatti scored his first career goal as surging Vancouver beat St. Louis.

Ryan Kesler had his fourth in three games and Jeff

Tambellini scored a late power-play goal for the Canucks, who improved to 9-11 in their past 11 games.

Alex Steen scored for the Blues, his third goal in two games this season against the Canucks.

In Tampa, Steven Stamkos scored his 26th goal this season and the 100th of his career, leading Tampa Bay past Carolina for its fourth straight victory.

Stamkos had one of three Lightning goals late in the second period that put Tampa Bay ahead 5-1. The center's milestone goal came in his 194th NHL game.

In other NHL games it



Pittsburgh Penguins' Evgeni Malkin, right rear, of Russia, celebrates his first-period goal with Sidney Crosby, left rear, and Paul Martin (7) during an NHL hockey game against the Phoenix Coyotes in Pittsburgh on Monday, Dec. 20, 2010.

Associated Press

was Atlanta 6, Toronto 3; Tampa Bay 5, Carolina 1; Florida 5, Philadelphia 0; Pittsburgh 6, Phoenix 1; Anaheim 3, Boston 0; 1. □

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Oregon's Chip Kelly wins AP coach of year



This Sept. 18, 2010, file photo shows Oregon head football coach Chip Kelly looking at the scoreboard late in the fourth quarter of their NCAA college football game against Portland State, in Eugene, Ore. Kelly has been voted AP Coach of the Year, Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010, after leading the second-ranked Ducks to an undefeated record and a spot in the BCS national championship game in just his second season as the team's leader.

Associated Press

By ANNE M. PETERSON
AP Sports Writer

EUGENE, Ore. — Oregon athletic officials were so convinced that Chip Kelly was destined to be head coach of the Ducks they offered him the job before it came open. Smart move.

In just his second season leading Oregon, Kelly is taking the second-ranked Ducks to the national championship game on Jan. 10 against No. 1 Auburn — and for that he was voted AP Coach of the Year on Tuesday.

Kelly received 24 votes from the 60-member AP football poll panel to beat out his BCS title game counterpart,

Gene Chizik of Auburn, who received 17 votes.

Stanford's Jim Harbaugh was third with five votes, TCU's Gary Patterson, last year's winner, and Mark Dantonio of Michigan State each received three votes. Getting one vote apiece were Nevada's Chris Ault, Oklahoma State's Mike Gundy and Miami, Ohio's Mike Haywood, who led the school to a Mid-American Conference championship before taking the top job at Pittsburgh last week.

One voter abstained and four did not return ballots.

Kelly has made a rapid rise from FCS coordinator in New England to leading the Pac-

10's new powerhouse program to within a victory of its first national championship.

Mike Bellotti, Oregon's longtime head coach through the 2008 season, hired Kelly away from New Hampshire to run the Ducks offense in 2007. He installed an up-tempo, spread-option attack that has been growing more potent ever since.

It didn't take long for it to become clear that Bellotti had hired his heir apparent. When Bellotti was tapped to take over as the school's athletic director, Oregon announced in December 2008 — as the Ducks prepared for the Holiday Bowl — that Bellotti would become full-time AD at some point and Kelly was the head-coach in waiting.

That spring, Bellotti made it official and Kelly took over the Ducks.

In his first season as head coach, Kelly led the Ducks to a 10-3 record and the Pac-10 championship, tailoring his explosive offense to the dual talents of quarterback Jeremiah Masoli and weathering the storm of negative publicity brought about when star running back LeGarrette Blount punched a Boise State player after an opening game loss.

Oregon regrouped and went on to the Rose Bowl for the first time since New Year's 1995.

Kelly was met by more turbulence this past spring

when both Masoli and running back LaMichael James got into trouble.

After Masoli pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge tied to the theft of a campus fraternity house, Kelly suspended him for the season. The coach later won praise for dismissing Masoli — considered to be a preseason Heisman Trophy hopeful — when he was caught with marijuana in his car.

With Masoli gone, Kelly developed sophomore Darren Thomas into not just a replacement, but an upgrade. James was suspended for the opener after pleading guilty to misdemeanor harassment for an altercation with his ex-girlfriend — but Kelly maintained that James was both honest and contrite about what had transpired.

Just as he had after Blount and the punch, Kelly had his team focused on moving forward in fall camp. The ability to reign in his team and shut out distractions has become one of his trademarks.

This season's Ducks have fully bought into Kelly's "Win The Day" philosophy. The motto is the last thing the players see above them as they emerge from the tunnel onto the field at Autzen Stadium. The acronym "WTD" graces the four corners of the stadium. And it will be written on the team's helmets in the national championship game.

Oregon reached No. 1 in the

nation for the first time in school history and Kelly has become college football's genius du jour. While plenty of teams are pushing the pace at which they play offensively, nobody does it as well and as quickly as the Ducks.

"Our vision is we want to play fast. We want to play hard. We want to finish," he said.

The Ducks led the nation in scoring during the regular season with 49.3 points per game. They were second in total offense with an average of 537.50 yards a game.

Kelly was named the Pac-10 Coach of the Year and won the Eddie Robinson coach of the year award from the Football Writers Association of America.

Kelly, 47, has a gruff exterior in those drive-by halftime interviews on television. A native of Manchester, N.H., his wry and dry wit rarely makes catchy sound bites.

At times it seems as if he fell right off the set of one of those Ben Affleck movies based in the Boston area.

He isn't much for talking about himself or deep analysis.

Asked recently what reaching the national championship game meant to him personally, just a few years removed from his first big break, Kelly wasn't much for being reflective.

"I never really think of it that way," he said. "I have a job. I love my job."

I love to get up every morning and do it." □

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No. 89: UConn tops UCLA, beats Florida St 93-62

By DOUG FEINBERG

AP Basketball Writer

HARTFORD, Conn. — Men's teams. Women's teams. No. 89 belongs to UConn. It beats them all.

The No. 1-ranked Huskies women's basketball team topped the 88-game winning streak set by John Wooden's UCLA men's team from 1971-74, beating No. 22 Florida State 93-62 on Tuesday night. Playing with the relentlessness that has become its trademark — and would have made Wooden proud — Connecticut blew past the Seminoles as it has so many other teams in the last 2 1/2 years.

"I don't want my team to compare themselves to anyone," UConn coach Geno Auriemma said afterward. "I'm not John Wooden and this isn't UCLA. This is Connecticut and that's good enough."

Maya Moore had a career-high 41 points and 10 rebounds and freshman Bria Hartley added 21 points for the Huskies, who have not lost since April 6, 2008, in the NCAA tournament semifinals. Only twice during the record run has a team come within single digits of UConn — Stanford in the NCAA championship game last season and Baylor in early November.

When the final buzzer sounded, UConn players sprinted across the floor to

shake hands with the student section as fans held up signs with "89" and the Huskies logo on them.

Two other fans raised a banner that read "The Sorcerer of Storrs," and big, blue "89" balloons bobbed in the stands behind center court.

After a brief huddle in front of their bench, UConn players re-emerged wearing "89 and Counting" T-shirts. As fans roared, the players bounced around at center court before posing for photos.

It is one more chapter of history for UConn, and perhaps the grandest.

"It's pretty amazing. It really is," said Auriemma, at a rare loss for words.

"I'll probably remember Maya Moore and Tiffany Hayes," he said, referring to his experienced stars. "And how incredibly difficult it is to play that many games in row and win 'em all."

Connecticut long ago established itself as the marquee program in the women's game, the benchmark by which all others are measured. The Huskies already own seven national titles and four perfect seasons under Auriemma, and they've produced a galaxy of stars that includes Rebecca Lobo, Diana Taurasi, Jennifer Rizzotti, Sue Bird and Tina Charles.

The streak, though, takes it to another level, certainly

raising the profile of women's basketball and maybe all of women's athletics.

Two days after beating No. 11 Ohio State to tie UCLA, UConn toppled the mark in front of a sellout crowd of 16,294 at the XL Center that included Wooden's grandson, Greg, attending his first women's game.

"My grandfather would have been thrilled. He would have been absolutely thrilled to see his streak broken by a women's basketball team," the 47-year-old Wooden said. "He thought, especially in the last 10 years, that the best basketball was played at the collegiate level — and it wasn't by the men."

John Wooden, the beloved Wizard of Westwood, died June 4 at age 99.

There was a festive atmosphere throughout the city, where building lights gleamed blue and white, and it was as electric as any Final Four inside the arena. Charles and UConn men's star Kemba Walker sat behind the Huskies' bench, and football coach Randy Edsall was there, too. Former NFL star Warrick Dunn, meanwhile, was cheering for his alma mater, Florida State.

With the game tied at 6, Moore and UConn (11-0) took command. The senior All-American had seven points during a 15-2 run to give



Connecticut forward Maya Moore, right, reacts with teammate Tiffany Hayes (3) after scoring against Florida State in the first half of an NCAA basketball game in Hartford, Conn., Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010. Heading into the game, Connecticut needed one win to set the NCAA record for consecutive wins.

Associated Press

Connecticut its first double-digit lead, and Moore's fadeaway jumper from the baseline extended the advantage to 34-15. Florida State (9-3) made a quick run to cut the lead to 11, but the Huskies weren't about to let anyone spoil this night. UConn ripped off the next 16 points, capped by consecutive 3-pointers from Hartley and a pull-up by Moore. Auriemma gave Hartley a kiss at the next timeout, and the tough-to-please coach was still grinning at halftime.

"She doesn't feel any of this," Auriemma said as he left the court. "She's kind of immune to all of this as a freshman. I love kids like that."

With a minute left to play and victory assured, Moore stood up and whirled a towel around her head. The All-American tossed it in the air briefly before sitting down for

the final seconds, beaming as she and her teammates on the bench yelled encouragement at the players on the floor.

"All you guys from Florida State, it wasn't easy to be part of all of this," Auriemma said. "I hope you don't feel disrespected by all this. You played a heck of a game."

UConn's rise to prominence began in 1995, when Lobo led the Huskies to their first national championship and unbeaten season. Since then, the best players in the country have made their way to the rural campus in Storrs, 30 miles outside of Hartford.

The excellence and confidence that defines great teams defines this one because Auriemma won't have it any other way. Perfection is expected, not simply a goal, and Auriemma goes to extraordinary lengths to get it. □

Sean O'Hair gets into Masters through ranking

AUGUSTA, Georgia (AP) — Francesco and Edoardo Molinari, the Italian brothers on Europe's winning 2010 Ryder Cup team, are among 13 players who have qualified for the Masters through the world rankings.

In the final 2010 rankings made available on Monday because there are no tournaments the rest of the year, Francesco is ranked No. 15 and Edoardo No. 18.

The Masters invites players who are in the top 50 at the end of the year. The criteria is mainly for international players who are not U.S. PGA Tour members and have fewer avenues to qualify, such as winning a tour event or getting into the FedEx Cup finale.

Among the other qualifiers are Robert Karlsson of Sweden (No. 17), Charl

Schwartzel of South Africa (No. 34) and Ryo Ishikawa of Japan (No. 36).

That brings to 91 the number of players who have qualified for the Masters, which has the smallest field of the four majors.

Augusta National prefers to keep its field at about 100.

Players still can qualify for the Masters by getting into the top 50 a week before the tournament, or winning a U.S. PGA Tour event that offers full FedEx Cup points.

The Masters will be played from April 7-10, with Phil Mickelson the defending champion and Tiger Woods trying to end his longest drought without a major or a green jacket. Woods last won the Masters in 2005, and he has gone 10 majors without winning. □

Vonn, Ligety leading World Cup standings

PAT GRAHAM,
AP Sports Writer

Sometimes, even the best in the business need a little inspiration before a big race.

Prior to her competition last weekend, three-time World Cup champion Lindsey Vonn tuned in to a men's race, hoping to draw motivation from watching Ted Ligety.

Ligety attacked the hill and captured the giant slalom in Alta Badia, Italy. Instantly inspired, Vonn followed suit, winning the super-combined in Val d'Isere, France.

It's been that kind of season for the U.S. skiers.

After a stellar showing at the Vancouver Olympics last winter, hauling in a team-record eight medals, the Americans are still riding the momentum, with Ligety and Vonn currently leading the overall World Cup standings.

The U.S. team's performance has become the chatter on the slopes.

"I think there's a lot of people that are very impressed with what we're doing and there's a lot of people talking about the strength of our team and the dominance right now that we have," Vonn said. "It's so motivating and inspiring and makes you want to keep skiing fast."

The fact Vonn is skiing this well hardly comes as a surprise.

She's the gold standard in the sport and has picked up right where she left off in Vancouver when she won the downhill and took bronze in the super-G — on a badly bruised right shin, no less.

Ligety's rise to the top of the standings does come as a surprise. He's known more as a technical skier but has diligently worked on improving his speed. His extra attention to the downhill appears to be spilling over as he's flying through even the tightest of giant slalom courses.

The 26-year-old from Park City, Utah, won his third straight World Cup giant slalom race last weekend.

Can he retain his overall lead all season?

"It's a tall task," said Ligety, who won gold in the combined at the 2006 Turin Games.

Vonn and Ligety are far from the only Americans making an early impression on the slopes this season. Julia Mancuso, winner of two silver medals in Vancouver, has been skiing solid and is sixth in the

overall standings. Even more, there's been a bevy of up-and-coming women's skiers consistently placing in the top 30. Alice McKennis, 21, recently took 11th during a downhill at Lake Louise, Alberta.

"They're all on a great track right now, and they're all showing a lot of potential," said Vonn, who lives and trains in Vail, Colo. "We try to work as a team and feed off of each other and learn from each other. That's why we're able to have the success we're

"Over the last few years, we've definitely gained more respect in the ski racing world."

For both Vonn and Ligety, the early season success can be directly attributed to a strong fitness program. Vonn took the opportunity over the summer to revamp her entire routine, overhauling her training and her diet.

She incorporated track workouts into her regimen to enrich her explosion in the slalom and giant slalom.

She figured the only way to maintain an advantage over best friend and top rival Maria Riesch of Germany was to get better at the events Vonn's struggled with most — the technical ones.

She currently leads Riesch by just three points in the overall standings after both crashed out of the slalom course Tuesday during a race in Courchevel, France.

Vonn also changed her diet, basically eliminating breads, rice, dairy and pastas — all the things she typically craves.

So far, her training routine is paying off. Vonn credits her increased strength for helping her stave off what looked to be certain wipeouts in two races this season to not only finish but wind up on the podium.

In Lake Louise, she momentarily went down on her left hip before springing back up off the snow and regaining her tuck position to keep charging down

the mountain and finish second.

She nearly went down again in a downhill race over the weekend, before regaining her balance and winning the race.

"I've made a lot of mistakes this year in my races and I've been able to make really fast recoveries because of the training I've done this summer," Vonn said.

Ligety's source of motivation in the offseason was simple — missing out on the medals in Vancouver. That didn't sit well with the skier known as "Teddy Ball Game" for his cool under pressure.

"That's a big motivator," said Ligety, who captured the overall GS title last winter for the second time in three seasons. "You're training in the gym and going in there five days a week — you don't always want to be in there."

"But it's definitely good motivation to think about that and know that this little extra work is going to help you in those situations." □



Lindsey Vonn, of the United States, left, celebrates after winning an alpine ski, women's World Cup super-combined race, in Val D'Isere, France, Sunday, Dec. 19, 2010. Lindsey Vonn won a World Cup super-combined race Sunday after following up her dominant performance in the super-G with an assured slalom run; and Ted Ligety of the United States, right, celebrates in the finish area after winning an alpine ski, men's World Cup giant slalom race, in Val D'Isere, France, Saturday, Dec. 11, 2010.



Associated Press

having right now."

On the men's side, Bode Miller has started off slowly, with just one top-10 finish so far this season. This after winning gold, silver and bronze in Vancouver to run his career total to five Winter Games medals. However, there's an influx of youth waiting in the wings, skiers such as Travis Ganong, the 22-year-old out of Squaw Valley, California, who recently finished 20th at a super-G in Lake Louise.

It's been quite a showing for the Americans this season in the traditionally European-dominated sport.

As for garnering more respect, Ligety said that was attained years ago through skiers such as Miller and Daron Rahlves.

"We used to be able to train with the Austrians, but they don't let us do that anymore because they know we can beat them," Ligety said. "I guess that's respect in a way."

Aruba TODAY

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Divided FCC adopts rules to protect Web traffic



FILE - In this file photo made March 12, 2010, FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski is interviewed at his office in Washington. New rules aimed at prohibiting broadband providers from becoming gatekeepers of Internet traffic now have just enough votes to pass the Federal Communications Commission on Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2010.

(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin, file)

By JOELLE TESSLER,
AP Technology Writer

WASHINGTON — A divided Federal Communications Commission has approved new rules meant to prohibit broadband companies from interfering with Internet traffic flowing to their customers.

The 3-2 vote Tuesday marks a major victory for FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski, who has spent more than a year trying to craft a compromise.

The FCC's three Democrats voted to pass the rules, while the two Republicans opposed them, calling them unnecessary regulation. The new rules are likely to face intense scrutiny on Capitol Hill once Republicans take over the House. Meanwhile,

public interest groups decried the regulations as too weak, particularly for wireless systems.

Known as "net neutrality," the rules prohibit phone and cable companies from favoring or discriminating against Internet content and services, such as those from rivals.

The rules require broadband providers to let subscribers access all legal online content, applications and services over their wired networks — including online calling services, Internet video and other Web applications that compete with their core businesses. But the rules give broadband providers flexibility to manage data on their systems to deal with problems such as network congestion and unwanted traffic including spam as long as they publicly disclose their network management practices.

The regulations prohibit unreasonable network discrimination — a category that FCC officials say would most likely include services that favor traffic from the broadband providers themselves or traffic from business partners that can pay for priority. The rules do, however, leave the door open for broadband providers to experiment with routing traffic from specialized services such as smart grids and home security systems over dedicated networks as long as these services are separate from the public Internet. In addition, the regulations prohibit wireless carriers from blocking access to any websites or competing applications such as Internet

calling services on mobile devices, and require them to disclose their network management practices, too. But the rules give wireless companies more leeway to manage data traffic because wireless systems have more bandwidth constraints than wired networks.

Genachowski said the regulations will prohibit broadband providers from abusing their control over the on-ramps that consumers use to get onto the Internet. He said the companies won't be able to determine where their customers can go and what they can do online.

"Today, for the first time, we are adopting rules to preserve basic Internet values," Genachowski said. "For the first time, we'll have enforceable rules of the road to preserve Internet freedom and openness."

Still, the final rules came as a disappointment to public interest groups. Even Genachowski's two Democratic colleagues on the five-member FCC were disappointed, though they still voted to adopt the rules after concluding some safeguards are better than none.

They warn that the new regulations may not be strong enough to prevent broadband companies from picking winners and losers on the Internet, particularly on wireless systems, which will have more limited protections. They also worry that the rules don't do enough to ensure that broadband providers cannot favor their own traffic or the traffic of business partners that can pay for priority — resulting in a two-tiered

Internet.

"Today's action could — and should — have gone further," said Michael Copps, one of the other two Democrats on the commission. But, he added, the regulations do represent some progress "to put consumers — not Big Phone or Big Cable — in control of their online experiences."

At the same time, the two Republicans on the FCC worried that the rules will discourage phone and cable companies from continuing to upgrade their networks by making it difficult for them to earn a healthy return on their investments. They also insist that the regulations are intended to fix a problem that does not exist, as all the major broadband providers have already pledged not to discriminate against Internet traffic on their networks.

"The Internet will be no more open tomorrow than it is today," said Meredith Attwell

Baker, a Republican. Republicans on Capitol Hill vowed to try to block the new regulations. Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas, the top Republican on the Senate Commerce Committee, plans to introduce a "resolution of disapproval" to try to overturn what she called "troubling regulatory overreach by the FCC."

Robert McDowell, the FCC's other Republican, predicted that the FCC will face court challenges to its regulatory authority, too. In April, a federal appeals court ruled that the agency had exceeded its existing authority in sanctioning Comcast Corp. for discriminating against online file-sharing traffic on its network — violating broad net neutrality principles first established by the FCC in 2005.

Those principles serve as a foundation for the formal regulations adopted Tuesday. □

More than half age 25-29 only have cell phones

By ALAN FRAM,
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In a first for any age group, more than half of Americans age 25-29 live in households with cell phones but no traditional landline telephones.

A report on phone use by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention also found that the younger children are, the likelier they are to live in homes that only have wireless phones. That suggests that younger parents are showing increasing comfort relying only on cell phones even as they adjust from being single to a more settled family lifestyle, according to one of the report's authors.

Taken together, the figures released Tuesday provide the latest evidence of how young people are leading the nation's evolution away from landline phones.

"You could say that among that age group, wireless only is the new norm," said Stephen Blumberg, a senior scientist at CDC and an author of the survey.

Continued on Page B13

Apple pulls WikiLeaks app from App Store

WASHINGTON — Apple said Tuesday it had removed an unofficial WikiLeaks application for the iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad from its App Store because it violated its guidelines for software developers.

"Apps must comply with all local laws," Trudy Muller, an Apple spokeswoman, told AFP. "It may not put an individual or targeted group in harm's way."

"We removed the WikiLeaks app from the App Store because it violated our developer guidelines," Muller said, declining further comment.

The WikiLeaks application cost 1.99 dollars and provided a mobile version of the WikiLeaks content, which is available on the organization's website for free, and access to its Twitter feed. It was approved by Apple on December 17 but removed from the

App Store on Monday.

The application's developer, Igor Barinov, said in a link on his Twitter feed that he had planned to donate one dollar from each download to WikiLeaks. Visa, Mastercard, PayPal and Amazon and other US companies have withdrawn their services from WikiLeaks since it began releasing thousands of secret US diplomatic cables. □



A customer uses an iPad in Sydney on May 2010. Apple said Tuesday it had removed an unofficial WikiLeaks application for the iPhone, iPod Touch and iPad from its App Store because it violated its guidelines for software developers.

Review: 'Fockers' is house guest that won't leave

By DAVID GERMAIN,
AP Movie Writer

Meet "Little Fockers," the latest in Robert De Niro and Ben Stiller's comedy franchise. Grit your teeth through the fairly short though agonizing duration of its stay.

Then wave goodbye in relief as its huge cast of characters departs like the annoying in-laws they are.

"Meet the Parents" from 2000 was a tolerable trifle and 2004's "Meet the Fockers" was a bloated bore. But "Little Fockers" is tasteless trash, filled with abysmally unfunny gags involving vomit, enemas, erectile dysfunction and the like as De Niro's Byrnes clan and Stiller's Focker family stumble through another mindless reunion.

The only positive thing De Niro, Stiller and such co-stars as Barbra Streisand, Dustin Hoffman, Jessica Alba and Owen Wilson honestly could say about "Little Fockers" is that they were paid well.

Jay Roach, who directed the first two movies, only produces this time, with Paul Weitz filling in as director on "Little Fockers."

Weitz's past work ranges from sweet and sharp ("About a Boy") to gross but edgy ("American Pie"). He's delivered an awful mess



In this film publicity image released by Universal Pictures, Robert De Niro, left, and Ben Stiller are shown in a scene from 'Little Fockers.'

(AP Photo/Universal Pictures, Glen Wilson)

here, working from a witless screenplay credited to John Hamburg, co-writer of the first two movies and a producer on this one, and Larry Stuckey, an associate producer on "Meet the Fockers."

A string of dumb episodes, "Little Fockers" strains to find new reasons for De Niro's father-in-law from hell Jack Byrnes to revive his suspicions about Stiller's Greg Focker, the male nurse his darling daughter Pam (Teri Polo) has chosen for a mate.

It all goes down as Jack and

his wife (Blythe Danner) visit Greg and Pam for the birthday bash of the couple's twins. Ex-CIA agent Jack resumes his surveillance of Greg, who has an innocent flirtation with a gorgeous pharmaceutical rep (Alba) peddling Sustengo, a new drug to treat impotence. Really. This is what the filmmakers expect you to pay to see.

Wilson is back as Pam's old flame, doing the same passive-aggressive pining and whining he did in the first two movies. Streisand

and Hoffman return as Greg's touchy-feely parents, whose sexual frankness again leaves the upright Jack unsettled.

Laura Dern joins the cast in a pointless role as head of a school that Greg and Pam are considering for their kids. A confrontation between De Niro and Harvey Keitel as Greg's housing contractor could have been a real hoot given the long history between the two actors, pals since their early days in Martin Scorsese films.

But it's just stiff, awkward and

humorless, like the rest of the movie.

The jokes are beyond lame, including a terrible play on words involving "The Godfather" that apparently had the filmmakers in stitches, since the movie repeats it so often.

There's even a dreadful, prolonged "Jaws" gag (the same studio made both movies, so at least the "Fockers" gang could poach the "Jaws" theme music on the cheap).

It's remarkable so many stars could be lured into this rubbish, no matter how big the paychecks. But then, Hoffman initially said no to reprising his role, coming on board only after most of "Little Fockers" had been shot.

His scenes were added later, pairing him mostly with Streisand and Stiller, then clumsily interspersed amid the main action.

Hopefully, there will be no call for any of the actors to repeat their roles after this. Let's pray these in-laws never come to visit again.

"Little Fockers," a Universal release, is rated PG-13 for mature sexual humor throughout, language and some drug content. Running time: 98 minutes. One and a half stars out of four. □

Staffer at rehab center accuses Lohan of battery

By ANTHONY McCARTNEY,
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES – Lindsay Lohan is under investigation for an alleged misdemeanor battery against a female staffer at a rehab facility where the actress is receiving treatment, authorities said Tuesday. Riverside County sheriff's Deputy Herlinda Valenzuela said officers responded to a Betty Ford Center facility in Palm Desert on Dec. 12 shortly after 1 a.m. for an incident involving Lohan.

Valenzuela says a female staffer reported having a dispute with the "Mean Girls" star and that she wanted to pursue charges. No arrests were made and Valenzuela says detectives continue to look into the case.

Their results will be presented to Riverside County prosecutors, who will decide whether to file a criminal case, Valenzuela said.

Messages for Lohan's attorney, Shawn Chapman Holley, were not immediately returned. An e-mail message seeking comment from a Betty Ford spokesman was not immediately returned, although the facility does not comment on its patients.

Lohan has been receiving treatment at the Betty Ford Center and its facilities, about 120 miles east of Los Angeles, since late September. A judge overseeing her probation for a 3-year-old drunk driving case has required Lohan to remain at the rehab center until Jan. 3.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge

Elden S. Fox has scheduled a hearing on Lohan's progress for Feb. 25. He has said he would be willing to place her on informal probation and allow her to leave Los Angeles if she stayed out of trouble until then.

Lohan's stint at Betty Ford is her fifth stay in rehab and her second this year. Fox agreed to release her early from treatment at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center in late August, but she failed a drug screening within weeks.

Fox opted to send her back to rehab rather than jail, where she would have been released early due to overcrowding.

The battery investigation was first reported by celebrity news website TMZ. □



FILE - In this July 20, 2010 file photo, Lindsay Lohan is shown in court in Beverly Hills, Calif. Lohan is being investigated for possible misdemeanor battery against a female staffer at a rehab facility where she is receiving treatment. Deputy Herlinda Valenzuela with the Riverside County Sheriff's Department says deputies responded to a Betty Ford Center facility on Dec. 12 for an incident involving Lohan.

(AP Photo/Al Seib, file)

BUSINESS Aruba TODAY



FILE - In this Nov. 12, 2009 file photo, a sign for TD Bank is shown in New York. TD Bank Group has agreed to buy Chrysler Financial, the automaker's old lending arm, from private equity firm Cerberus Capital Management LP for \$6.3 billion.

(AP Photo/Mark Lennihan, file)

TD Bank to buy Chrysler Financial for \$6.3B

By ROB GILLIES
SAMANTHA BOMKAMP,
Associated Press

TORONTO — Toronto-Dominion Bank has agreed to buy Chrysler Financial, the automaker's old lending arm, from private equity firm Cerberus Capital Management LP for \$6.3 billion.

The deal is the latest example of a healthy Canadian bank using their muscle to snap up U.S. institutions battered by the financial crisis.

Toronto-Dominion CEO Ed Clark said Canada's second-largest bank is looking to accelerate growth in the U.S. and this deal makes them a top five North American auto lender.

"We're taking advantage of a disruptive market to add on assets that in the heyday you could never buy for these kind of prices," Clark said in an interview with The Associated Press. "We're already a top 10 player in the U.S. We're getting even bigger." New York-based Cerberus bought Chrysler Financial in 2007 as part of the \$7.4 billion deal to take over Chrysler's automaking business and lending business. Cerberus handed over control of Chrysler's automaking operations to the government when Chrysler nearly ran out of cash and faced liquidation in 2008. The carmaker received a government bailout, went through a speedy bankruptcy court process, and then became owned by Italy's Fiat SpA.

Cerberus kept ownership of Chrysler Financial, and could end up making money on the lending arm when the Toronto Dominion deal goes through.

TD wants to expand its loan business, and said the deal will give it access to technology that can process more than 2 million credit applications per year. The auto lending market hasn't taken as much of a hit as other kinds of consumer loans over the last several years. And the value of used cars is picking up as the economy improves.

The deal is the second U.S. acquisition in a week by a Canadian bank. Last Friday the Bank of Montreal announced it is buying Milwaukee-based bank Marshall & Ilsley Corp. for \$4.1 billion in stock. □

Banking, other deals drive stock indexes higher

By CHIP CUTTER,
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Financial companies led the stock market higher Tuesday after another big banking deal raised hopes that more acquisitions could be on the way. Toronto-Dominion Bank is buying Chrysler Financial, the automaker's old lending arm, from Cerberus Capital Management LP for \$6.3 billion. It was the latest example of a relatively healthy Canadian bank buying a U.S. lender battered by the financial crisis. Just four days ago Bank of Montreal said it would buy Milwaukee-based bank Marshall & Ilsley Corp. for \$4.1 billion.

Corporate mergers have picked up strongly this year. That, along with signs of an improving economy and a tax cut package passed last week, have helped drive stocks up. The Standard & Poor's 500 index has jumped 6.2 percent this month and is up 12.3 percent this year.

Investors like to see an increase in deals because it shows that companies are becoming more confident in the economy. It also leads investors to hunt for companies that might become targets for buyers.

Research firm Dealogic reported Tuesday that the total amount of corporate deals has jumped 18 percent to \$2.7 trillion so far this year compared with all of 2009. Caterpillar Inc., Chevron Corp. and Google Inc. have also made significant deals in 2010. "There is growing optimism about the economy, or at least the U.S. economy, in 2011," said Alan Gayle, senior investment strategist for RidgeWorth Investments. "We're 18 months into this



FILE - In this Dec. 14, 2010 file photo, trader Richard Newman works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

(AP Photo, file)

recovery, and good things are gradually happening."

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 48.40, or 0.4 percent, to 11,526.53 in afternoon trading. The Dow is up 4.7 percent so far this month. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 6.20, or 0.5 percent, to 1,253.38. The Nasdaq composite index rose 14.99, or 0.6, to 2,664.58.

Financial companies were the best performers. JPMorgan Chase & Co. rose the most among the 30 companies that make up the Dow. The stock rose 2.3 percent to \$40.87. U.S. Bancorp rose 2.3 percent to \$26.74. Bank of America Corp., Goldman Sachs Group Inc. and Wells Fargo Corp. all rose by more than 1 percent.

"There's a perception that some of the ... bigger banks will start an acquisition program of their own in addition to what we're seeing with some of the Canadian banks," said Randy Bateman, chief investment officer for Huntington Asset Advisors.

Adobe Systems Inc. jumped 4.6 percent to \$30.52 after the software maker reported earnings that were much stronger than analysts had expected. The company also

raised its forecast for earnings and revenue in the current quarter.

Another technology company, Jabil Circuit Inc., soared 10.4 percent to \$19.49 after its income more than tripled on stronger revenue. Jabil, which makes parts for electronics and other technology companies, also issued a higher earnings and revenue forecast.

CarMax Inc. slumped 8.9 percent to \$32.71. The used car dealership chain said its expenses jumped 14 percent last quarter as the company paid more for sales commissions and advertising. Nike Inc. reports results after the stock market closes.

Bond prices were relatively flat. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 3.36 percent from 3.35 percent late Monday. The euro fell after Portugal became the latest European country to be warned of a possible credit rating downgrade.

Asian markets rose as tensions eased between North and South Korea. Japan's Nikkei 225 stock average closed up 1.5 percent, South Korea's Kospi rose 0.8 percent and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index rose 1.6 percent. □

Dr. Viana's Slow Roasted Holiday Turkey

Traditionally, a festive feast or dinner is a focal element of the holiday season where we sit down with family and friends for the "breaking of the bread". The expression "breaking of bread", some believe, must be qualified. "Breaking of bread" signified the dividing of the bread cakes or loaves which were used by Orientals. Sometimes "breaking of bread" is used concerning partaking of a common meal (Mk. 6: 41; Acts 27: 35) and "Breaking of bread" is also used in connection with the religious memorial called the Lord's Supper. We are talking about Christmas dinner and before we can sit down to enjoy our meal, we need to plan our menu.

Our dinner guests include people with all blood groups. To serve everyone, we are sure to choose foods that are healthy. Friends and family seem to keep coming back for more of our wheat/gluten free, dairy free, low fat, good for all blood groups, "Holiday Feast" The centerpiece is a slow roasted Turkey on the BBQ. On request, I offer here, my recipe for a great turkey.

COOKING TIME FOR ROASTED TURKEY

Weight	Cook Time Stuffed	Time Unstuffed
10-18lbs	3 — 3 1/2 hrs	3 3/4 - 4 1/2 hrs
18-22lbs	3 1/2 — 4 hrs	4 1/2 - 5 hrs
22-24lbs	4 — 4 1/2 hrs	5 - 5 1/2 hrs
24-29lbs	4 1/2 — 5 hrs.	5 1/2 - 6 1/4 hrs

Slow Roasted Holiday Turkey on the BBQ

Turkey is gluten (wheat) free, but if you have celiac disease or are extremely gluten sensitive, avoid self-basting turkeys with "flavorings" These usually contain some wheat, though a very small amount for those with less sensitivity. Non-self basting bird needs to be basted with Clarified butter and your favorite seasonings to keep from drying out.

NOTE: Handle poultry with gloves and use separate cutting boards and disinfect counters before using again. Serving size: 2 lbs/1kg Turkey per person

What you need:

- Whole Turkey - (self basting or Non)
- 2 roasting pans (sturdy bottom pan and top pan that fits inside the bottom
- Heavy duty aluminum foil
- Oven safe meat thermometer
- Sea salt, olive oil or clarified butter and seasonings to taste
- Stuffing if desired or may be prepared separately

Preparing and cooking the Turkey:

1. Thaw frozen wrapped, turkey in refrigerator (8-12lb/1-2 days – 12-16lb/2-3 days – 16-20/3or4days)
2. Remove turkey from refrigerator no more than 30-60 minutes before roasting
3. Pre heat the BBQ to medium or Oven to 300F
4. Rinse in cool water, removing any loose fat and *giblets (Use to make gilet gravy)
5. Season the bird with Dry Rub spices as desired.
6. Place 1/2 cup of water in the sturdy bottom pan.
7. Insert a top pan into the bottom pan. (may be aluminum) *For heavy birds, use a turkey lifting rack or you may place several layers of heavy duty aluminum foil in the bottom of the roasting pan to make it easier to lift the turkey when cooked.
8. Cut aluminum foil long enough to make a "tent" up and around the turkey.
9. Place bird breast side up into top roasting pan, tucking the wing tips under the body
10. Insert an oven-safe meat thermometer into the inner

thigh meat near the breast, be sure not to touch bone.

11. Roast bird covered according to weight/ cooking time chart
12. Remove the foil tent to brown the skin the last 45 minutes of cooking. Basting is not necessary, but will promote even browning.
13. Turkey is done when the thermometer reads 180 degrees F For stuffed turkey, the temperature in the middle of the dressing should be 165F/75
14. When the turkey is done, remove from BBQ/oven and allow to stand for 20-30 minutes before carving
15. Place on a carving board or plate, garnish with raisins, plums, grapes, or baked vegetables

*Turkey may be served room temperature or under a heat lamp on a buffet

*For gluten free stuffed bird try Quinoa Stuffing

*Use leftovers heated in gravy, to make salads, sandwiches or turkey soup. Bones are great for Dr. Viana's Bone soup/stock (free recipe in clinic)

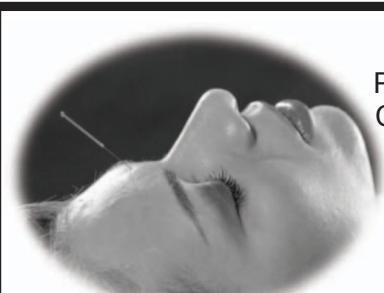


Dr. Viana's Roasted HOLIDAY Turkey, White meat-boneless turkey breast and baked sweet potatoes warming on the BBQ

Try sweet potatoes instead of white baked on the BBQ, a blend of wild and brown rice, your favorite fresh green vegetables prepared with olive oil and fresh herbs, and you've got yourself a healthy, holiday feast!

Get the Point!

Selecting healthy foods from your "beneficial" list (available at our Clinic) is a delicious and healthy alternative to some traditional holiday foods. As for our "Breaking of bread" dinner being a "common meal" or a "religious memorial", I do not make a distinction. Come to clinic so we can teach you how to make eating healthy an everyday event. Meanwhile, with my glass of red wine, loaded with antioxidants, I will toast and give thanks for the presence of healthy family members and friends and remember those of you who cannot make it this year. CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: www.vianaheal.com



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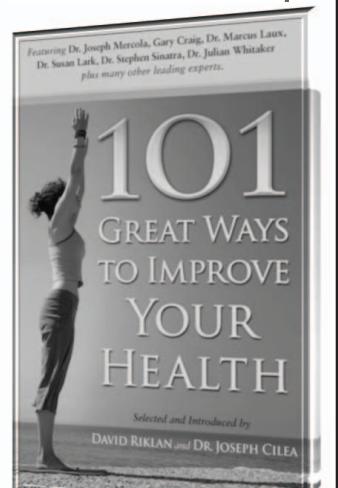
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Carlos Viana, O.M.D., C.N.N.

CELL PHONES**Continuesd from Page B9**

The shift toward cell phones and away from landlines is having a wide impact, changing not only how people communicate but the telecommunications industry and the work of pollsters and others who collect data.

The survey showed that overall, 27 percent of U.S. households had only cell phones in the first half of this year, up 2 percentage points since the last half of 2009. That number has been growing rapidly — in the first six months of 2007, just 14 percent of households relied only on wireless service, roughly half of current levels. Among 25- to 29-year-olds, 51 percent lived in homes with only cell phone service in the first half of 2010. That was up 2 percentage points from the previous six-month period.

For both age groups bracketing them — 18- to 24-year olds, and 30- to 34-year-olds — 4 in 10 lived in cell-only households. After age 35, the likelihood that people live in homes with only wireless service falls off, with only 1 in 20 people age 65 and up living in homes that rely solely on cell phones.

The study also found that among children under age 3, nearly 4 in 10 live in wireless-only households. That figure drops to about a third of children age 3 to 5, and less among older children.

Blumberg said this is significant because it counters the perception — backed by previous data — that cell phone-only households are likelier to be comprised of young, unattached people. The latest numbers suggest that as young people used to living only with cell phones have families, they're keeping their wireless-only habits. □

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Group seeks to restore wolves nationwide



FILE - This undated handout photo provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service shows a gray wolf. An environmental group has filed notice that it will sue the federal government to force it to adopt a plan for the recovery of gray wolves across the lower 48 states. Biologists with the Arizona-based Center for Biological Diversity said Tuesday they want to expand that recovery nationwide.

(AP Photo/U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, file)

**By MATTHEW BROWN,
Associated Press
BILLINGS, Mont. — An**

environmental group filed notice Tuesday that it intends to sue the federal government to force adoption of a plan to recover gray wolves across the lower 48 states.

The predators were poisoned and trapped to near-extinction in the United States in the last century. But they have bounced back in some wilderness areas over the last few decades.

Biologists with the Arizona-based Center for Biological Diversity said Tuesday they want to expand that recovery nationwide. In the notice filed with the Interior Department, the group said it will sue within 60 days if the agency doesn't start crafting a plan to expand wolf ranges. The Endangered Species Act requires the agency to be notified two months before a lawsuit is filed.

Despite making gains in some areas since the species was first listed as endangered in 1974, the gray wolf remains limited to about 5 percent of its historical range. About

6,000 wolves live in the lower 48 states. They are protected from hunting except in Alaska. "Wolves once roamed nearly the whole country and down into Mexico," said Noah Greenwald with the Center for Biological Diversity.

"We've learned from where wolves have been reintroduced that they have a tremendous benefit," he said. "They force elk to move around more, which allows riparian vegetation to come back and increases songbirds, and they control coyote populations." Like the Bush administration, the Obama administration has pushed to end federal protections for wolves and turn control over the animals

over to the states. Public hunts for wolves have been allowed briefly in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming, but were halted after the federal government was rebuffed by the courts in several attempts to take the animal off the endangered list. Judges have ruled that the government has not proved existing wolf numbers would ensure the population's long-term survival.

Wolves are notorious predators with a hunger for livestock, and experts say they could survive in most of the country if they were allowed. Young adult wolves sometimes travel hundreds of miles when looking to establish a new

territory. In the last several years, packs have gained a toehold in parts of Oregon and Washington. Others have been spotted in Colorado, Utah and northern New England.

But as packs continue to multiply their taste for livestock and big game herds coveted by hunters has stoked a rising backlash.

Several bills are pending in Congress to strip the predators of their federal protections, including in areas of the desert Southwest where a restoration efforts have struggled to take hold. Those bills could die at the end of the year when the current session ends. Lawmakers have pledged to reintroduce the measures. □

Moonwatchers treated to total lunar eclipse



The eclipsed moon glows in the predawn sky Tuesday morning December 21, 2010 in this view from Stedman, NC. This picture is a 10 second time exposure made through an amateur astronomer's 12 1/2 inch Telescope.

(AP Photo)

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NEW YORK — Skywatchers got an early holiday present this year: A total eclipse of the moon.

Hanging high in the sky, the moon slowly turned from bright silver into a red disk early Tuesday.

A total lunar eclipse occurs when the Earth casts its shadow on the full moon, blocking the sun's rays that otherwise reflect off the moon's surface. Some indirect sunlight still pierces through to give the moon its eerie hue. The 3 1/2 hour celestial spectacle was visible from North and Central America where skies were clear. Portions of Europe and Asia only caught part of the show. The totality phase — when the moon was completely immersed in Earth's shadow — lasted 72 minutes.

Since the year's only total lunar eclipse coincided with winter solstice, the moon glowed high in the sky.

The last time this occurred was more than three centuries ago on Dec. 21, 1638. It will happen again on Dec. 21, 2094, according to U.S. Naval Observatory spokesman Geoff Chester.

Lunar eclipses are safe to watch with the naked eye, unlike solar eclipses.

The next total lunar eclipse will occur in June 2011 and will not be visible from North America. □

Venezuela espera solución en caso de embajador de EEUU



Foto de archivo del presidente venezolano Hugo Chávez durante la ceremonia de clausura de la Conferencia de los Pueblos sobre Cambio Climático y los Derechos de la Madre Tierra en Cochabamba, Bolivia. (AP Foto/Juan Karita, Archivo)

CARACAS (AP) - El canciller Nicolás Maduro afirmó el martes que espera una salida a la controversia que existe entre Venezuela y Estados Unidos por

la designación del nuevo embajador estadounidense, rechazado por Caracas. "Esperemos con las posiciones que se han asumido más adelante pudiera encontrarse alguna salida", dijo Maduro a la estatal Venezolana de Televisión (VTV) al ser consultado en relación a las diferencias que han surgido entre Caracas y Washington luego que el gobierno venezolano rechazó la postulación del Larry Palmer como nuevo embajador estadounidense. "Queremos tener relaciones de respeto en términos de igualdad, de comunicación, con todos los gobiernos del mundo, y en este caso en particular con el gobierno de los Estados Unidos. Aspiramos que estas situaciones se vean con bastante objetividad", agregó. Ante la afirmación que realizó en la víspera el portavoz del Departamento de Estado, Philip Crowley, de que habría

"consecuencias respecto a la relación bilateral" por el rechazo de Palmer, el canciller venezolano sólo comentó que "lo que teníamos que decir ya lo dijimos". "Esperemos para ver como evoluciona la situación. Se sabe muy bien que lamentablemente este embajador que había designado los Estados Unidos incurrió en graves violaciones de lo que son las relaciones diplomáticas, lo que es la costumbre del derecho internacional, y, bueno, se inhabilitó", acotó.

Maduro hizo la declaración a la salida de una reunión con su par peruano, José Antonio García Belaunde, con quien evaluó la posibilidad de establecer nuevos convenios comerciales de cooperación entre Caracas y Lima.

Crowley insistió el lunes en que en el gobierno estadounidense "no tenemos planes de retirar la nominación" de Palmer. □

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